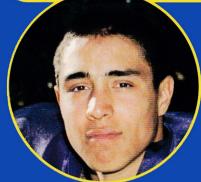
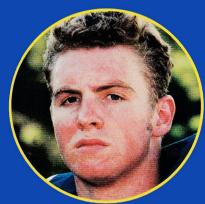
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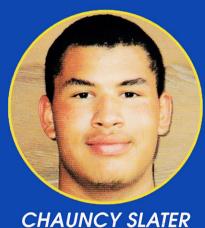
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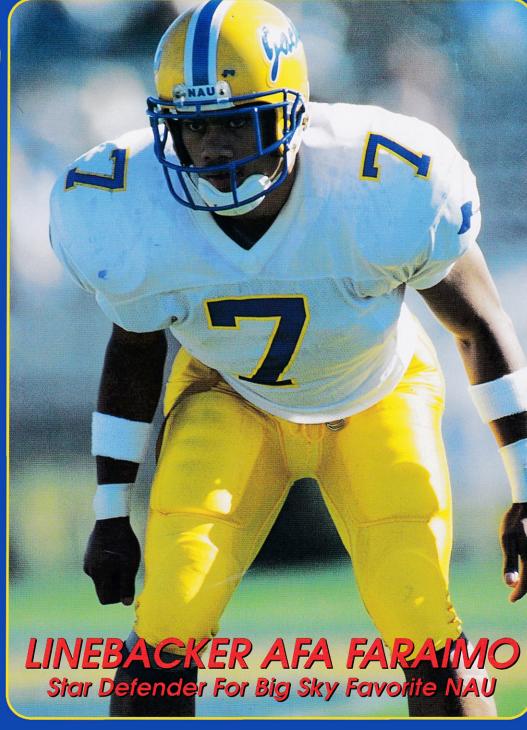
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ARIZONA HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL STAR SHOWCASE





1997 ASU FOOTBALL HOME SCHEDULE

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OCT 11 USC

NOV. 1 WASHINGTON

NOV. 15 OREGON

NOV. 28 ARIZONA

ASU fans congratulate the 1996 PAC-10 Champions and anxiously anticipate the careers of the 1997 In-state Recruiting Class.

| Clifton Jones | WR | Florence High School | 6'2" | 180 |
|----------------------|------|----------------------------------|-------|-----|
| John Kashner | DB | Tucson Flowing Wells High School | 5'10" | 165 |
| Kyle Kosier | LB'r | Glendale Cactus High School | 6'6" | 225 |
| Cody Price | ILB | Mesa Westwood High School | 6'3" | 230 |
| Justin Taplin | WR | Tempe High School | 6' | 180 |
| Ralph Zarate | OL | Tucson High School | 6'5" | 275 |

These freshman will join all Pac-10 safety Mitchell Freedman of Maryvale HS, flyback Jeff Paulk of Tempe Corona de Sol HS, wide receivers Kenny Mitchell of Peoria HS, and Creig Spann of South Mountain HS. ALSO. .

These former All Arizona players will begin their careers as redshirt freshman Sun Devils.

| Ryan Kealy | QB | St. Mary's High School | 6'2" | 190 |
|----------------|----|------------------------------|------|-----|
| Tariq McDonald | WR | St. Mary's High School | 6'1" | 180 |
| Jason Moore | TE | Horizon High School | 6'5" | 255 |
| Stephen Trejo | LB | Casa Grande High School | 6'3" | 235 |
| Quincy Yancy | DE | Glendal Ironwood High School | 6'7" | 245 |

Support these Sun Devils as they defend the PAC-10 Championship in 1997

Also don't miss the excitement of watching former Arizona High School/ASU stars in the NFL in 1997:

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Dallas Cowboys

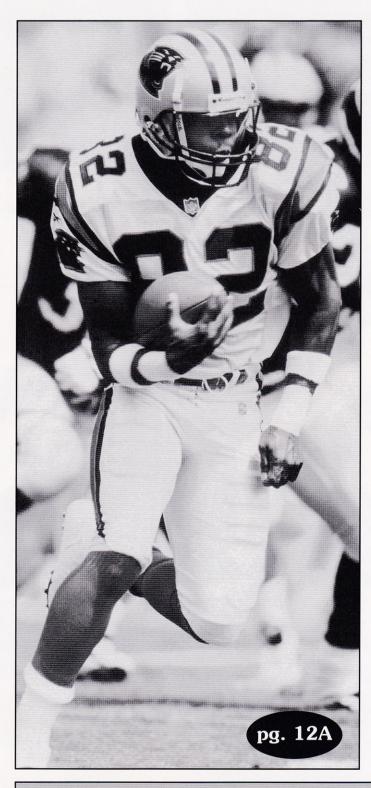
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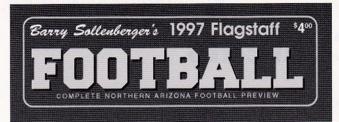
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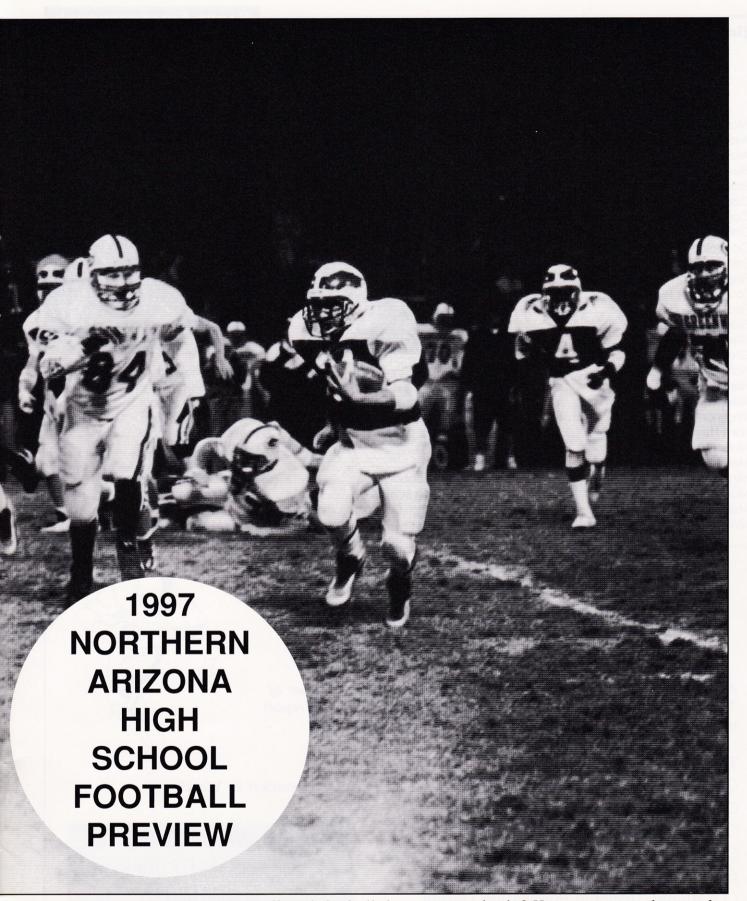
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Good Luck Elks!





Year-after-year, where does Flagstaff High find all these running backs? Here comes another good one, junior-to-be Mack Jones, on the loose against Phoenix Greenway. (Photo courtesy Flagstaff High School)

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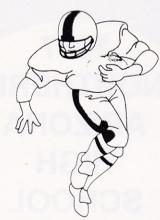
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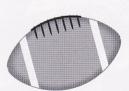
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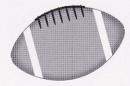


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1997 WILDCAT FOOTBALL SCHEDULE Coach Dick Tomey

Sept 4. at Oregon
Sept. 13 Alabama-Birmingham
Sept. 20 at Ohio State
Sept. 27 at UCLA
Oct. 4 San Diego State
Oct. 11 Stanford
Oct. 18 Washington
Oct. 25 at Washington State
Nov. 8 Oregon State
Nov. 15 California
Nov. 28 at Arizona State

1997 SUN DEVIL FOOTBALL SCHEDULE Coach Bruce Snyder

Aug. 30 New Mexico State
Sept. 13 at Miami
Sept. 20 BYU
Sept. 27 at Oregon State
Oct. 4 at Washington
Oct. 11 USC
Oct. 18 at Stanford
Nov. 1 Washington State
Nov. 8 at California
Nov. 15 Oregon
Nov. 28 Arizona

1997 LUMBERJACK FOOTBALL SCHEDULE Coach Steve Axman

Aug. 30 at New Mexico Sept. 20 Minnesota-Duluth Sept. 27 Portland State Oct. 4 at Weber State Oct. 11 Montana State Oct. 18 at Sacramento Oct. 25 Montana Nov. 1 at Idaho State Nov. 8 Eastern Washington Nov. 22 at Cal State Northridge

CONSISTENCY GOAL FOR PAC-10 CHAMPS

ARIZONA STATE

ARIZONA STATE

Receiver Lenzie Jackson

By Joseph Barry Sollenberger

Bruce Snyder, the NCAA Coach of the Year, has made several things perfectly clear since his thrill-a-minute Sun Devils came within seconds of winning the 1996 national championship.

"We don't want to go to the Rose Bowl every 10 years," said Snyder. "Consistency is a proven mark of success, and we haven't proven that yet."

Those remarks came in reference to the fact that ASU's appearance in the '97 Rose Bowl was the school's first post-season game since beating Air Force in the '87 Freedom Bowl.

To list just a few items, Snyder, whose 11-1 squad dropped a heartbreaker to Ohio State in the Rose Bowl, wants a program where the Devils attend a bowl each year, contend for the Pac-10 crown, and graduate its seniors.

Last year's run for the Roses was one of the most thrilling in school history. It was no fluke. Just take a look at April's NFL draft, and ASU fans couldn't help but feel proud. Eight Sun Devils were selected. Seven more signed free agent contracts.

Nobody produced more. Nebraska, Miami and A-State all had eight pro picks. The Devils lost a lot of talent, but a lot returns. The program looks solid. It's not perfect, yet. But it looks consistent. The best since 1987.

For the upcoming '97 campaign, the defending Pac-10 champs have switched the dates of three games to avoid playing 11-straight without a break. The Devils now have three bye weeks. And before you can say "Sun Devil," the season will be upon us.

New Mexico State comes to town in late August, when most fans are still at the beach. The date is August 30, so Camp Tontozona, the hideout north of Payson used as a preseason drill factory, opens early. Snyder, his staff and players will board the bus Aug. 12.

Two weeks after the Aggies visit
Tempe, the Devils visit Florida, facing
national power Miami on Sept. 13. One
week later pass-happy BYU comes to
town. Arizona State will not make a trip
to Los Angeles, visits the Bay Area twice,
and plays Washington State for the first
time in three years.

Even with the loss of All-American Jake Plummer at quarterback, ASU's offense looks big and fast. Inexperience shows at three positions: quarterback, tight end and right tackle. But athletes are there.

If tailback Michael Martin (6-1, 209) is cleared from a neck injury, he'll join full-

SUN DEVIL NEWCOMERS

| Pos. Player | Size | Hometown(School) |
|----------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| QBChad Elliott | 6-3, 190 | Sacramento (Grant), Ca. |
| RBRobert Thomas | 5-11, 183 | Las Vegas (Bonanza) |
| RBDavaren Hightower | 6-1, 190 | Richardson (Lake Highlands), Tx. |
| RBLarry Montgomery . | 6-2, 210 | Diamond Bar (Troy), Ca. |
| WRClifton Jones | 6-2, 180 | Florence (Florence), Ariz. |
| WRJustin Taplin | 6-0, 180 | Tempe (Tempe Union) |
| TEMatt Cercone | 6-5, 250 | Bakersfield Junior College |
| OLScott Peters | 6-3, 305 | Pleasanton (Amador Valley), Ca. |
| OLRalph Zarate | 6-5, 275 | Tucson (Tucson) |
| LBJoe Cesta | 6-1, 235 | Saddleback Junior College, Ca. |
| LBEric Fields | 6-3, 200 | Las Vegas (Western) |
| LBKyle Kosier | 6-6, 225 | Glendale (Cactus) |
| LBCody Price | 6-3, 230 | Mesa (Wretwood) |
| DLDayroni Harris | 6-4, 280 | Los Angeles Southwest Junior College |
| DLLeroy Hawkins | 6-4, 265 | San Francisco City College |
| DLWelton Kage | 6-6, 255 | Antelope (Center), Ca. |
| DBJames Dunn | 5-10, 180 | Corona (Centennial), Ca. |
| DBKyion Grayes | 6-0, 185 | Fullerton (Troy), Ca. |
| DBCourtney Hysaw | 5-10, 185 | Denver (Montbello), Colo. |
| DBCourtney Palmore | 5-11, 177 | Oxnard (Oxnard), Ca. |
| DBJohn Kashner | 5-10, 165 | Tucson (Flowing Wells) |
| PKStephen Baker | 5-11, 180 | Bakersfield Junior College |

back Jeff Paulk (6-1, 245) to give the Devils' a terrific one-two punch. Up front, Kyle Murphy (6-4, 298) might be one of the best at that position in the Pac-10, if not the country. He looks to be a high draft pick.

Sophomore back J.R. Redmond (6-0, 191) will see plenty of action. He (photo insert) returns kicks, catches the ball and throws it. Last year he tossed 16-yard scoring strike to Jake Plummer against UCLA.

Who starts at quarterback, junior Steve Campbell (6-8, 220) or redshirt freshman Ryan Kealy (6-1, 195), is up for grabs. Last season, playing behind Plummer, Campbell threw only 17 passes, completing eight for 76 yards.

Whatever, wide receiver looks to be a strength, with speed and athletic ability big pluses. Lenzie Jackson (#83 photo), Kenny Mitchell, Greig Spann, Ricky Boyer and Tariq McDonald, along with incoming frosh Justin Taplin, the state schoolboy player of the year, help form a

"We don't want to go to the Rose Bowl every 10 years. Consistency is a proven mark of success, and we haven't proven that yet." deep, solid nucleus, one of the Pac-10's best. Sophomore Kendrick Bates (6-5, 233), a former basketball star, could start at tight end. He'll be pushed by senior Zack Romero (6-4, 230).

Junior Grey Ruegamer (6-5, 287) has been switched from right tackle to left, replacing All-American Juan Roque. "I think Grey is one of the best tackles in the country," insists offensive coordinator Dan Cozzetto. "You don't find many linemen who are running downfield, making the extra block."

Junior Troy Davis (6-5, 252) or soph Thomas Schmidt (6-6, 259) will inherit Ruegamer's position on the other side. The coaches are high on left guard Kyle Murphy (6-4, 298), also. "He may be one of the best in the country," says one ASU aide. Murphy played all 103 snaps during a 48-35 double-overtime win over USC. Glen Gable (6-5, 295) and Victor Leyva (6-4, 290) will compete at right guard. Junior Randy Leaphart (6-3, 278) should start at center.

On defense, ASU returns five starters: three in the secondary, one at linebacker and one on the line. Defensive backs Damien Richardson, Jason Simmons and Courtney Jackson all started. The off-season status of safety Mitchell Freedman is uncertain. Linebacker Pat Tillman (5-11, 200) earned All-Pac-10 votes.

Up front, players like Vince Amey, Jeremy Staat, Albrey Battle, Derrick Ford, Hamilton Mee and Quincy Yancy get their chance to start.

Dick Tomey and The 'Cats Bounce Back. Quarterback Kevin Smith page 4A

By Lonnie Collins

It wasn't too long ago that Arizona's "Desert Storm" defense was the talk of the conference. But after last year's season finale, a 56-14 loss to rival Arizona State, the once proud Wildcat defense was left in shambles.

But that was last year. Watch for Dick Tomey and his 'Cats to bounce back. A lot can happen in one year. A lot can happen in the off-season.

No sooner had the dust cleared from a disappointing 5-6 campaign, when Tomey and his staff went to work to put the pieces back together.

On both sides of the ball.

Offensively, sophomore Kevin Smith (photo) returns at quarterback. Like all young starters in a tough conference, he rode a rollercoaster season. Two examples: 502 total yards against California (a 56-55 4OT loss), an NCAA single game total offense record for a freshman, including seven touchdowns. Then, against Rose Bowl bound Arizona State, he was sacked seven times, passed for only 91 yards and rushed for two.

Such is the world of a young Pac-10 quarterback. Still, the UA staff feels Smith (5-11, 202) has the ability, arm and skills to develop into one of the Pac-10's most dangerous threats. On the perimeter, Rodney Williams (6-1, 191), Jeremy McDaniel (6-0, 190) and young Dennis Northcutt 5-11, 160) are top-flight pass receivers. In two years, Williams has caught 71 passes. McDaniel hauled in 31 for 607 yards last season. Tight end Mike Lucky (6-6, 280) gives Smith a big target.

Senior Kevin Schmidtke (5-9, 191), a one-time state player of the year, and sophomores Trung Canidate (5-11, 185) and Leon Callen (5-9, 182) line up at tailback. Callen is battling an injury. Canidate, a former Phoenix Central all-stater, was a state 100-meter sprint champion (10.65) in 1995. Kelvin Eafon (6-1, 190) and Charles Myles (6-0, 241) give the 'Cats a good tandem at fullback.

Last year, the once proud Arizona defense slipped to eighth in the league. In the offseason, Arizona lost defensive coordinator Larry MacDuff to the New York Giants. Former UA assistant Rich Ellerson will replace him.

Good news came in the spring when

WILDCAT NEWCOMERS

| Pos. Player | Size | Hometown(School) |
|-----------------------|-----------|----------------------------------|
| RBManuel Golden | 5-11, 185 | Phoenix (Washington) |
| RBWilliam Blocker | 5-11, 210 | San Bernardino (Pacific), Ca. |
| RBJeff Inmon | 6-3, 230 | Raleigh (Cardinal Gibbons), N.C. |
| RBJay Hinton | 6-0, 202 | Glendale Community College |
| WRA.J. Brown | 6-0, 180 | Phoenix (Washington) |
| WRBrandon Nash | 6-2, 195 | Beverly Hills, Ca. |
| TEBrandon Manumaleuna | 6-1, 260 | Torrance (Narbonne), Ca. |
| TEAshley Burrows | 6-6, 230 | Mesa Community College |
| OLDavid Hubbard | 6-5, 280 | Tucson (Sabino) |
| OLJohn Mamolo | 6-4, 275 | Lafitte (Fisher Creek), La. |
| OLEga Usu | 6-4, 290 | El Camino Junior College |
| OLSteven Grace | 6-2, 270 | Honolulu (Kamehameha) |
| OLEdwin Mulitalo | 6-4, 340 | Ricks College, Idaho |
| LBReggie Hardy | 6-0, 205 | Galena Park (North Shore), Tx. |
| LBMike Wilson | 6-0, 190 | Corona (Centennial), Ca. |
| DLBryan Kula | 6-4, 285 | Phoenix (Brophy Prep) |
| DLAnthony Thomas | 6-3, 240 | Pasadena (Pasadena), Ca. |
| DLEli Wnek | 6-3, 225 | Glendale (Ironwood) |
| DLJ.J. Joppru | 6-4, 270 | Fullerton Junior College |
| DBMalosi Leonard | 6-2, 210 | Palmdale (Palmdale), Ca. |
| DBAlex Luna | 6-1, 220 | San Fernando (San Fernando), Ca. |
| DBCharles Nash Jr | 5-10, 175 | Gardena (Serra), Ca. |
| DBJimmy Ray Brown | 5-11, 175 | Los Angeles (Jefferson) |
| PRyan Springston | 6-1, 210 | Butler County, Ks. |

the NCAA granted all-star defensive tack-le Joe Salave'a (6-4, 280), a second team All-Pac-10 pick, an extra year of play. "This is the best single piece of news we've had," said Tomey. "It's a tribute to Joe for his hard work and academic focus, and a heck of a note for our team. He means everything to this team that a guy like Peyton Manning means to Tennessee."

Salave'a played in the East-West Shrine Game and the Hula Bowl, two NCAA-sanctioned all-star games which

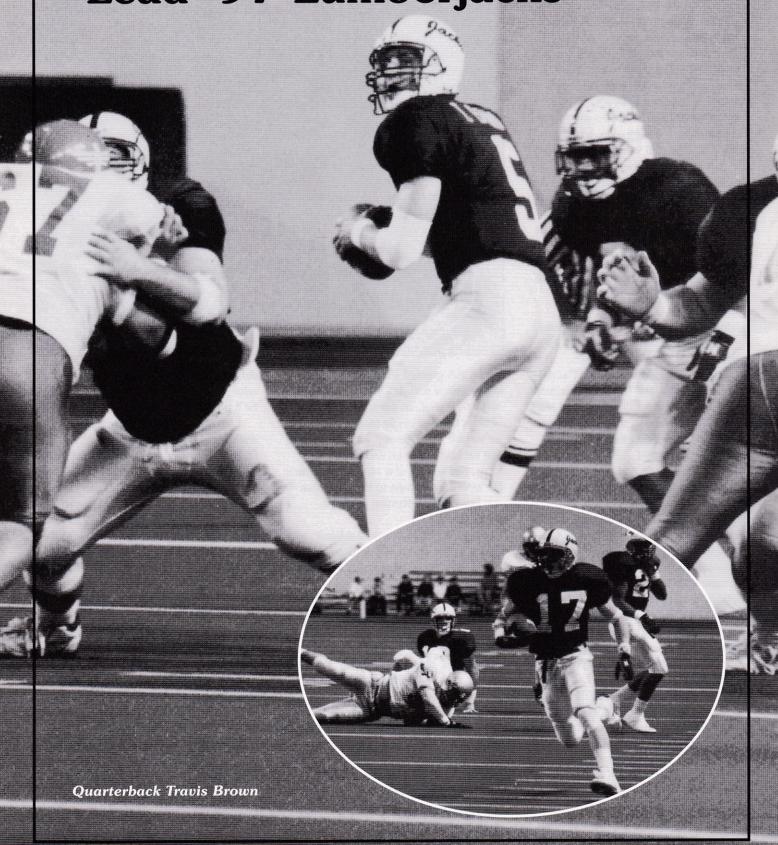
"This is the best single piece of news we've had. It's a tribute to Joe for his hard work ... and a heck of a note for our team. He means everything to this team that a guy like Peyton Manning means to Tennessee."

did not affect his status under new NCAA rules. One of the team captains in '96, he'll probably be one again in 1997.

Lots of experience returns, including linebacker Jimmy Sprotte (6-2, 237), tackle Daniel Greer (6-2, 265), and ends Steve Tafua (6-3, 280) and Mike Szlauko (6-4, 250). Behind, the 'Cats will be led by middle linebacker Chester Burnett (5-10, 223), the team's leading tackler last year. Safety speed makes him one of the fastest 'backers in the Pac-10. Last year he recorded 124 tackles, best in the conference, recovered two fumbles, caused three, broke up three passes and picked off two - one for a touchdown. Redshirt junior Paul Shields, a former prep star from Paradise Valley, could back up Burnett.

In the secondary, UA returns five former starters: cornerbacks Chris McAlister (6-2, 185) and Kelly Malveaux (5-9, 179), strong safety Rashee Johnson (5-11, 195), and free safeties David Flipp (6-0, 179) and Mikal Smith (5-10, 166). McAlister, a junior to be, was first in the Pac-10 with six interceptions, and returned a kickoff 100 yards for a score against UCLA.

Three All-America Candidates Lead '97 Lumberjacks



By Jeff Krider

It's been an upbeat summer, to say the least. With 17 starters back from an excellent 9-3 club, NAU looks tough.

Coach Steve Axman has three All-America candidates to work with: sophomore quarterback Travis Brown (Phoenix Moon Valley), offensive tackle Dan Finn (Mesa Westwood) and wideout Ricky Pearsell (Flagstaff). "Any coach in the conference would love to build a season around those three," claims one Big Sky head coach.

Last year's young club dropped a 42-31 opening round playoff game to Furman, the school's first such contest in the 1-AA national playoffs. But eight starters are back from one of the most prolific offenses in Big Sky history.

In 1996, the Lumberjacks set or tied 14 national records, leading the nation in scoring and total offense. The defense, which caved in late in the season, looks improved, with nine starters and some talented newcomers.

Throw in All-America punt returner Pearsell (photo insert) and it's easy to see why expectations run high in Flagstaff. In fact, one national publication, *The Sporting News*, ranks the 'Jacks No. 1 in the nation in Division I-AA.. From sideline to sideline, NAU will field one of the most talented offenses in 1-AA football. Four starters return from an offensive line that sprung Archie Amerson loose for 2,079 yards. Before picking up his diploma, Amerson carried off the Walter Payton Award, given annually to the nation's I-AA Player of the Year.

"It will be hard for us to produce the same numbers," says offensive coordinator Brent Myers. "With the loss of Archie, you take 2,000 yards away. He made us better at a lot of positions."

Despite the loss of Amerson, the 'Jacks appear loaded. Sophomore Travis Brown (photo) was terrific, completing 223 of 411 passes (54%) for 3,398 yards and 23 touchdowns. Only nine passes were intercepted. "Travis now needs to work on detail," claims Myers. "He can play and he knows the system, so now he can really focus on making himself a better all-around player. The kids believe in him. He is a very natural leader and our players have no doubt he will succeed."

Wideouts Gibbons St. Paul and Pearsall were all over the field. St. Paul caught 50 passes for 975 yards and six

LUMBERJACK NEWCOMERS

| Pos. | Player | Size | Hometown(School) |
|-------------|---------------------|-----------|------------------------------|
| QB | Preston Parsons | 6-3, 190 | Portland (Jesuit), Oregon |
| RB | Francis St. Paul | 5-10, 185 | Los Angeles (Murphy) |
| WR | Christopher Nash | 5-9, 175 | Flagstaff (Coconino) |
| TE | Stevan Fontana | 6-5, 240 | San Geronimo (Marin), Ca. |
| OL | Kenny Hale | 6-3, 260 | Phoenix (South Mountain) |
| OL | Chris Hann | 6-4, 270 | Glendale (Cactus) |
| OL | Eric Damko | 6-5, 265 | Temecula Valley, Ca. |
| OL | Kevin Damko | 6-5, 265 | Temecula Valley, Ca. |
| OL | Nick Yerton | 6-3, 280 | Crescenta Valley, Ca. |
| LB | Kacey Allen | 6-0, 215 | Long Beach (Poly), Ca. |
| LB | Ricky Lavender | 6-1, 180 | Oakland (McClymonds) |
| LB | Terrance Petty | 6-3, 234 | Moorpark Junior College, Ca. |
| DL | Timmy Jones | 6-4, 235 | Omaha (Millard South) |
| DL | Malachai Keddington | 6-3, 275 | Palmdale (Highland), Ca. |
| DL | Andrew Anthony | 6-1, 250 | Phoenix (St. Mary's) |
| DB | Ricky Lavender | 6-0, 170 | Oakland (McClymonds) |
| DB | Brad Byers | 5-10, 180 | Moreno Valley, Ca. |
| DB | Chris Byers | 5-10, 194 | Riverside Junior College |
| DB | Raymond Perryman | 6-0, 180 | Phoenix (South Mountain) |
| PK | Ty Dondelinger | 5-11, 190 | Novato (Marin Catholic), Ca. |
| THE RESERVE | | | |

scores. Pearsall caught 47 for 728 yards and three TDs. And this in an offense with a back rushing for 2,000 yards.

The receiving corps may be the most talented position on the squad. Six receivers with at least 20 catches return. Wideouts Mike Lemo and Dion Black, two of the fastest squad members, also return.

"This is an area in which we are really going to be good," adds Myers. "St. Paul is a big-play guy and Pearsell is a natural leader. Lemos and Black are both poised for the kind of break-through season St. Paul and Pearsell had last year."

Another offensive threat is tight end Ray Flores, another Mesa Westwood product, who caught 23 passes, including

"This is an area in which we are really going to be good. St. Paul is a big-play guy and Pearsall is a natural leader. Lemos and Black are both poised for the kind of breakthrough seasons that St. Paul and Pearsall had last year."

a 67-yard touchdown.

On the line, Finn (6-4, 290), left guard David Heasman (6-5, 335), center Ryan Lingenfelder (6-2, 280), and right guard James Martin (6-4, 320) return. Finn was a first team All-American, Lingenfelder was second team all-league, and Martin has been granted an extra hardship year by the NCAA.

Defensively, NAU lost two exceptional players to graduation, tackle Pete Petrucci and end Kevin Kolkman. But tackle Jarrett Loggins (6-3, 281) and end Nick Petrucci (6-3, 240) return. David Couture (6-2, 240) progressed and could replace Kolkman at end.

The outside linebackers are strong, quick and experienced. "It could be one of the team's best positions.," says defensive coordinator Robb Akey.

Damion Davis (5-10, 181), Afa
Faraimo (5-10, 201) and Troy Campbell
(5-10, 181) return to the outside corps.
Young Faraimo (see cover) prepped at
Long Beach Poly, the most productive
high school ever for the National Football
League. Campbell played at Phoenix
Washington. Redshirt freshman Walter
Jefferson, a Tucson Amphi product, was
the 'Jacks' scout team player of the year.

Lots of experience returns in the secondary, too. Cleveland Dansby, the former South Mountain quarterback, Samaji Akili, Renal Robinson, Cedric Jones, Ryan Hill and Rod Washington all played and figure to improve.

MYERS/STEVENS & CO. Salute

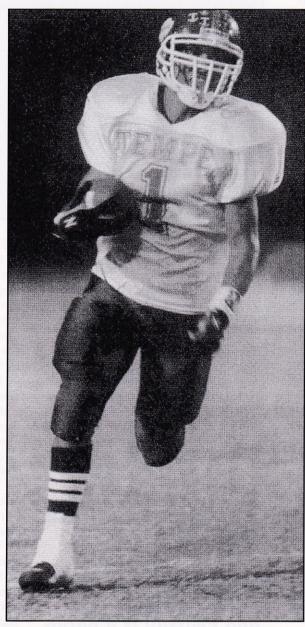
Arizona's High School



PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

| 1996JUSTIN TAPLIN |
|---|
| Tempe (WR/KR) |
| 1995MIKE BROWN |
| Saguaro (RB/DB) 1994TAVON COOPER |
| |
| Peoria (RB/RS) 1993KEVIN SCHMIDTKE |
| Marana Mtn. View (RB) |
| 1992MIKE MITCHELL |
| Brophy Prep (RB) |
| 1991CHRIS HOPKINS |
| Tucson Salpointe (RB) |
| 1990MARIO BATES |
| Tucson Amphi (RB) |
| 1989BRIAN DREW |
| Tempe McClintock (RB) |
| 1988ERIC DRAGE |
| Tucson Santa Rita (WR) |
| 1987KEVIN GALBREATH |
| Phoenix Maryvale (RB) |
| 1986BOBBY VALDEZ |
| Tucson Sunnyside (QB) |
| 1985CLEVELAND COLTER |
| Tempe McClintock (RB) |
| 1984STEVE BELLES |
| Phoenix St. Mary's |
| (QB) |
| 1983ANTHONY PARKER |
| Tempe McClintock (RB) 1982RODNEY PEETE (jr) |
| Tucson Sahuaro (QB) |
| 1981STAN GILL |
| Flagstaff (RB) |
| 1980FRED SIMS |
| Tucson Sunnyside (RB) |
| 1979MOSSY CADE |
| Eloy Santa Cruz (DB) |
| 1978MIKE CADE |
| Eloy Santa Cruz (RB) |
| 1977ALVIN MOORE |
| Coolidge (TB) |
| RIKI GRAY |
| Tucson Amphi (LB) |
| 1976GREG BRADY |
| Coronado (QB) |
| 1075 DDILLY DDILLY |

1975BRIAN FELIX



Justin Taplin, an Arizona State signee, caught 75 passes for 1,295 yards and 16 touchdowns (Amy Blodgett photo).

| Phoenix Union (RB) |
|-------------------------|
| 1974DAVID MITCHELL (jr) |
| Phoenix St. Mary's (RB) |
| TIEJIMMY MOORE |
| Marcos de Niza(TE/DE) |
| 1973ROB WILSON |
| Coronado (QB/DB) |
| 1972JESSE PARKER |
| Tucson Rincon (RB) |
| 1971FRED MORTENSEN |
| Tempe (QB) |
| 1970BILL CROWE |
| Tempe McClintock (LB) |
| 1969BENNY MALONE |
| Eloy Santa Cruz (RB) |
| 1968JOE PETROSHUS |
| Tucson (HB) |
| 1967TIM SMITH |
| Phoenix St. Mary's (RB) |
| 1966BOB SOZA |
| Mesa Westwood (TB) |
| BILL DAWSON |
| Tucson (OT/DT) |
| 1965ART MALONE |
| Eloy Santa Cruz (TB) |
| 1964LEROY PEOPLES |
| Marana (HB) |
| 1963JAMES DUGAN |
| Flagstaff (HB/DB) |
| 1962EVERETT ROLLINS |
| Scottsdale Arcadia (HB) |
| 1961ANDY LIVINGSTON |
| Mesa (TB) |
| 1960TED LAWRENCE |
| South Mountain (G) |
| 1959BOB OLSON |
| South Mountain (FB) |
| 1958LEWIS ALBRIGHT |
| Scottsdale (HB) |
| 1957EDDIE WILSON |
| Chandler (QB) |
| 1956WARREN LIVINGSTON |
| Mesa (TB) |
| 1955GEORGE GREATHOUSE |
| Phoenix Union (TB) |

1954GEORGE GREATHOUSE

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The Pointe's Pennsylvania Trip **Old News**



The criticism surrounding the announcement that Tempe Mountain Pointe will open its season August 29 against Wilson High in West Lawn, Pa., has gone from comical to ridiculous. But such is the case today, where - in some school districts - athletics are considered the evil Darth Vadar of the high school curriculum.

Unknown to most critics, and, unfortunately many sports writers, there have been hundreds of games played by Phoenix metropolitan schools against teams from outside the Grand Canyon State.

Between 1916 and 1969, the state's "Big Five," Phoenix Union, Mesa, St. Mary's, Phoenix North and Tucson, played 258 games against teams from Nebraska, Texas, California, New Mexico, Utah, Colorado, Nevada and Mexico City, winning 60% of the time.

But when Mountain Pointe Principal Harold Slemmer, at the encouragement of head coach Karl Kiefer, arranges a home-and-away contest with his brother's school in Pa. (Slemmer's brother Gerald is the WHS head coach), you'd think the school system had lost its mind.

Forget the fact that hundreds of Arizona high school bands have marched across out-of-state soil, from Washington, D.C., to Miami, to Pasadena, and sometimes missed class doing so. "It's ridiculous to send a football team across the country to play a high school game," say critics. "Who's going to pay for this, the tax payers?"

Somebody actually asked that question.

Never mind the fact that the Pride's progressive booster club, which annually sells over \$25,000 in advertising for its 116-page souvenir game program, has helped pick up the tab. Or that stops at historic Gettysburg are on the agenda. Or that Wilson High will return the favor next year.

In fact, as recent as 1995, one Arizona school, Tucson Sabino, traveled farther, when the Sabercats journeyed to Connecticut, and beat New Canaan, 28-21. Based on mileage, here are several of the more historic games played between Arizona schools on out-of-state soil:

In 1938, Port Arthur, Texas, one of the Lone Star State's all-time winningest programs, beat Mesa High 28-21, down by the Gulf. Three years later the Yellowjackets beat Mesa again, 13-6, also in Texas.

In 1949, St. Mary's hit the road, beating Mexico City 34-6 at the Olympic Stadium. Five years ago Sabino beat Waianae 31-12 in Hawaii, the same year national power Honolulu St. Louis beat Mesa Mountain View, 21-7. Last year Sabino beat Chillicothe, Ohio 49-12 in Ohio.

Today, horses train at Turf Paradise on better facilities and run on better tracks than many high school athletes in several of the school districts in Maricopa County. School districts which have scaled back athletic funding, dropped lower level programs, and often have head coaches who don't even teach on campus.

Tempe isn't one of them.





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SPORTS QUIZ

SO YOU THINK YOU KNOW FOOTBALL ...



Who is this former Minnesota Viking, an all-pro receiver and a former Phoenix South Mountain alum?

- 1) South Mountain High of Phoenix has sent more than its share of players into the pro ranks. One is in the photo at right. Who is this former Phoenix schoolboy star who became an all-pro with the Minnesota Vikings?
- 2) Every one of these former Arizona schoolboy stars played for the Green Bay Packers except:
 - a) Gordon Rule, Chandler
 - b) Bill Lueck, Agua Fria
 - c) Fred Carr, Phoenix Union
 - d) Preston Dennard, Marcos de Niza
 - e) Vance Johnson, Tucson Cholla

- 3) Since this school now plays in the Arizona Class 5A ranks, it has a chance to win a state football championship in every classification, since it has already won titles in 1A thru 4A:
 - a) Paradise Valley
 - b) Tolleson Westview
 - c) Gilbert
 - d) Kingman
 - e) Casa Grande
- 4) Since 1992, this Arizona high school has played games against schools from Hawaii, Utah, California, Connecticut and Ohio:
 - a) Tucson Amphitheater
 - b) Yuma Cibola
 - c) Tucson Sabino
 - d) Tucson Sahuaro
 - e) Mesa Mountain View
- 5) In this century, at least one national publication or organization has selected each of these Arizona schoolboy stars as the "National High School Player of the Year" except:
 - a) Conrad Flippen, Phoenix Union
 - b) Wilford "Whizzer" White, Mesa
 - c) Darnell Autry, Tempe
 - d) Andy Livingston, Mesa
- 6) Every one of the following "closed" Arizona high schools is matched with its proper mascot except which one?
 - a) Phoenix Tech Hornets
 - b) Jerome Muckers
 - c) Phoenix Union Wolves
 - d) West Phoenix Thunderbirds
 - e) Scottsdale Beavers
 - f) Phoenix Indian Braves

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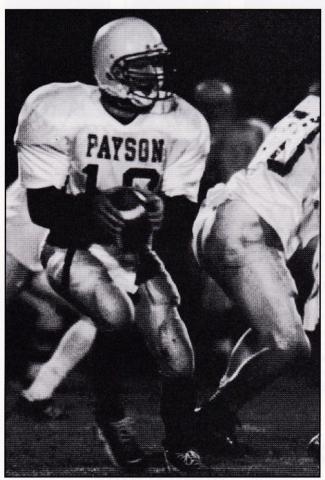
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4) Tucson Sabino. 5) Darnell
Autry. 6) Phoenix Union
Coyotes,

1997 FRIDAY NIGHT HEROES

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Hunter Walden looks for a receiver against Snowflake (Nick Worth photo).

Flagstaff Football Magazine's checklist of outstanding varsity players for the 1997 high school football season.

QB.... Cory Seymore, Show Low, 6-4, 180

QB.... Hunter Walden, Payson, 5-11, 175 (jr)

QB.... Nate Jackson, Blue Ridge, 5-10, 160 (jr)

RB.... Mike Rhorer, Mingus Union, 5-11, 170

RB.... Ronnie Fleming, Lake Havasu, 6-3, 188

RB.... James Faultner, Williams, 5-11, 170

RB.... Mack Jones, Flagstaff, 5-10, 195 (jr)

TE Jason Thuneman, Lake Havasu, 6-0, 180

OL.... Chris Foster, Blue Ridge, 6-3, 240

OL.... Chauncy Slater, Flagstaff, 6-4, 280

OL.... John Napolitan, Page, 6-2, 202

LB Jon Arnold, Flagstaff Sinagua, 6-2, 220

LB Jacob Belshe, Round Valley, 6-3, 230 (jr)

LB David Jarvis, St. Johns, 5-10, 180

DL.... Robin Lewis, Parker, 5-11, 188

DL.... Carl Vance, Show Low, 6-0, 190

DL.... Julian Perez, Bullhead City Mohave, 5-10, 230

DL.... Williamson Benally, Monument Valley, 6-2, 200

DB.... Cory Lizarraga, Blue Ridge, 5-9, 155

DB.... Bryan Begay, Flagstaff, 5-8, 160

DB.... Alfonso Solano, Williams, 6-1, 180

DB.... Randy Pryor, Flagstaff Coconino, 5-9, 175

DB.... Ryan Stokes, Mingus Union, 6-1, 170

DB.... Greg Young, Bullhead City Mohave, 5-10, 165

DB.... Nate Brink, Wickenburg, 5-11, 150

P.... Travis Holland, Flagstaff, 6-1, 175

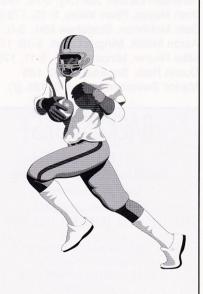


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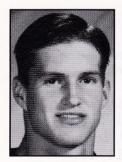
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Travis Holland Flagstaff



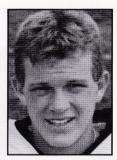
Ryan Stokes Mingus



Carl Vance Show Low



Mike Rhorer Mingus



Cory Seymore Show Low

quarterbacks

Bill Eckle, Bradshaw Mtn., 6-5, 205 (jr) Nate Jackson, Blue Ridge, 5-10, 160 (jr) Pete Nez, Pinon, 6-0, 185 (jr) Lincoln Proctor, St. Johns, 6-0, 160 Robbie Roberts, Coconino, 5-10, 160 Cory Seymore, Show Low, 6-4, 180 Hunter Walden, Payson, 5-11, 175 (jr)

running backs

Ryan Adams, Round Valley, 5-8, 170 Josh Baird, Monument Valley, 6-0, 185 *Jereme Bais, Mayer, 5-10, 185 *Steve Boka, Orme School, 6-2, 210 Dennis Clinger, Coconino, 5-9, 175 (jr) Robert David, Blue Ridge, 5-8, 170 (jr) Hobie Dufort, Sedona, 5-10, 210 James Faultner, Williams, 5-11, 170 Ronnie Fleming, Lake Havasu, 6-3, 188 Kevin Floyd, Page, 5-10, 200 Tyrel Garvin, Show Low, 5-9, 150 Kent Heap, St. Johns, 5-10, 168 Mack Jones, Flagstaff, 5-10, 195 (jr) *Brandon Larson, Joe City, 5-10, 190 (so) Josh Mayes, River Valley, 5-10, 175 (jr) Seth Mckinnon, Bradshaw Mtn., 6-0, 185 Aaron Midriff, Mingus Union, 5-10, 175 Mike Rhorer, Mingus Union, 5-11, 170 Dustin Roth, Snowflake, 6-0, 185 Marlon Swimmer, Hopi, 6-0, 185 (jr)

BACK ISSUES!

Back Issues of Flagstaff Football Magazine are available. Several editions are sold out. Those still remaining include: 1996, 1995, 1993, 1992, 1990, 1989, 1988, 1987

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Morgan Wilson, Valley Sanders, 5-10, 165 Kurtis Yocum, Kingman, 5-11, 170

receivers

*Jared Black, Fredonia, 6-2, 175

*Travis Carter, Orme School, 6-2, 197 (jr)
Jeff Fox, Round Valley, 6-1, 200
Kevin Lewis, Flagstaff, 5-11, 180
Aaron Linaman, Sedona, 6-4, 230
Lavel Mayberry, Winslow, 6-1, 205
Ryan Niesz, Fountain Hills, 5-10, 160
Bristol Olomua, Ganado, 6-3, 195 (jr)
Dennis Simmon, Snowflake, 5-7, 155
Jason Thuneman, Lake Havasu, 6-0, 180
Axel Trainer, Cave Creek, 6-3, 205

centers

Andy Andrist, Prescott, 6-0, 235
*Mike Waters, Fredonia, 5-8, 200
Zach Watts, Flagstaff, 6-0, 200

linemen

*Kalan Allen, Mogollon, 6-3, 230 Will Benally, Monument Valley, 6-2, 200 Jonah Bense, Sinagua, 6-3, 282 (jr) *Yannick Boka, Orme School, 6-2, 307 (ir) James Ferguson, Cave Creek, 6-2, 220 Ryan Flaygar, St. Johns, 6-7, 230 Chris Foster, Blue Ridge, 6-3, 240 JoShua Haven, Hopi, 6-3, 240 Brock Heap, St. Johns, 6-0, 280 Albert Hydeman, Pinon, 6-1, 230 Nick Johnson, Mingus Union, 6-8, 280 (jr) Marco Jones, Ganado, 6-2, 185 Joe Kessay, Alchesay, 5-10, 230 Robin Lewis, Parker, 5-11, 188 John Napolitan, Page, 6-2, 202 Dion Nelson, Lake Havasu, 6-1, 192 Micah Ormon, Sinagua, 5-11, 200 Julian Perez, Mohave, 5-10, 230 Chauncy Slater, Flagstaff, 6-4, 280 *Brandon Tait, Fredonia, 6-3, 275 Carl Vance, Show Low, 6-0, 190

deep backs

Adam Zerger, Sinagua, 6-3, 262

Matt Allen, Round Valley, 5-9, 175 (ir) Bryan Begay, Flagstaff, 5-8, 160 Nate Brink, Wickenburg, 5-11, 150 Chad Ellis, Blue Ridge, 5-10, 165 Kyle Goklish, Alchesay, 5-11, 165 (jr) Anthony Hadorn, Sedona, 5-11, 165 Ben Johnson, Flagstaff, 5-10, 170 (jr) Cory Lizarraga, Blue Ridge, 5-9, 155 Jason Miller, Coconino, 6-1, 175 Eddie Pena, Prescott, 6-2, 190 Randy Pryor, Coconino, 5-9, 175 Tom Rauh, Payson, 5-11, 180 Alfonso Solano, Williams, 6-1, 180 Ryan Stokes, Mingus Union, 6-1, 170 Trevor Wilkins, Snowflake, 6-0, 177 Greg Young, Mohave, 5-10, 165

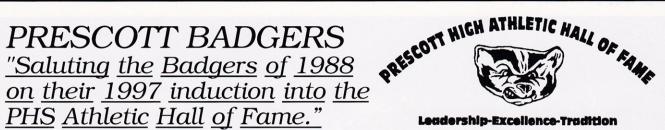
linebackers

Jon Arnold, Sinagua, 6-2, 220
Travis Bell, Show Low, 6-0, 190 (jr)
Jacob Belshe, Round Valley, 6-3, 230 (jr)
Joe Bierer, Blue Ridge, 6-0, 180
Matt Butcher, Fountain Hills, 6-1, 205
Dana Cummings, Page, 6-1, 185
Kurtis DeMarse, Flagstaff, 6-1, 205
David Jarvis, St. Johns, 5-10, 180
Regan Jirsa, Coconino, 5-10, 175
Jason Kasper, Mingus Union, 6-0, 180
John Manthei, Winslow, 5-11, 215 (jr)
Mike Marioni, Prescott, 6-0, 195
Frank Perez, Sinagua, 6-3, 210
*Jimmy Snyder, Joseph City, 5-10, 180

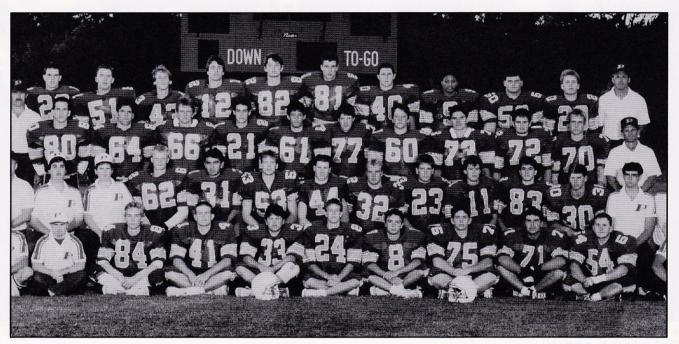
kickers

Travis Holland, Flagstaff, 6-1, 175
*Peter Iverson, Orme School, 6-2, 175
Alex Johnson, Fountain Hills, 6-2, 195
Bryce Solberg, Flagstaff, 6-0, 170 (jr)
Axel Trainer, Cave Creek, 6-3, 205
*8-man football

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Head coach Bill Gahn and the '88 Badgers won 12 of 13 games, advancing to the state Class 4A semifinals before falling to Peoria 14-7.

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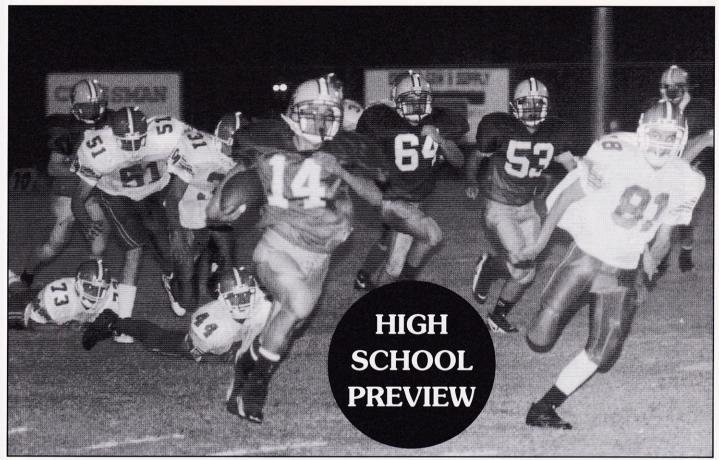
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Former Badger head coach Cliff Miller first coach of North All-Stars, in 1945!

Scored a state record 106 points vs Kingman in 1925, 66 in the 1st quarter!

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In senior Nate Brink (14), Wickenburg has the league speedster, and a two-way player who never leaves the field. (Wickenburg Sun photo)

KINGMAN, BLUE RIDGE NEWSMAKERS

For the first time in 24 years, Northern Arizona will have a school in the large 5A ranks. Kingman, whose enrollment increase has mirrored its town's population growth, has moved into the 5A Northwest Region. They join Phoenix metro schools Glendale Ironwood, Tolleson Westview, Scottsdale Desert Mountain, Deer Valley, Phoenix Goldwater and Mountain Ridge. Last year, Ironwood played in the 4A title game.

Still, the big news in the north region of the state is the "big time" program at Blue Ridge. Entering the 1997 campaign, the defending 3A champs have won 39 games in a row and three consecutive state championships. St. Johns' recordrun of 43 games without defeat is in jeopardy. The Yellowjackets head coach, Paul Moro, has won six state championships and 80% of his games. He's coached at the Lakeside school since 1985.

5A Northwest

Kingman, a 4A school for years, moves into 5A warfare one year late. All-staters Trevor Mote and James Moua, two of the best players in the state, graduated. Running back Kurtis Yocum (5-11, 170, 4.7) is the Bulldogs' best bet for post-season honors. Tight end Dan Robles (6-2, 180) played as a sophomore. L. D. Schritter (6-3, 225), Robert Martin (6-1, 205), Jeff Baker (5-10, 210) and Bob Wilson (5-11, 220) give the Dogs' some size up front. Still, depth will be a weakness, at least for awhile. Last year's 11-2 club dropped a 21-12 semifinal contest to Ironwood.

4A Grand Canyon

Flagstaff lost two November games by one point and missed the playoffs by an eyelash. Only 15 players picked up

diplomas. Thirty lettermen return. Lots of underclassmen played, so the Eagles have a shot at improving last year's 6-4 finish. Coach Craig Holland, 64-36-0 in 10 years, returns four of the best players in the region: all-state punter Travis Holland (6-1, 175), also the team's quarterback, all-state cornerback Bryan Begay (5-8, 160), all-state tackle Chauncy Slater (6-4, 280) and promising young tailback Mack Jones (5-10, 195).

Holland, the coach's son, was pressed into service late in the season because of an injury to quarterback Gentry Clark. He led the Eagles to a 2-1 finish, completing 40% of his passes and scoring twice from scrimmage. As a punter he averaged 38.7 yards, with terrific hang time. Seldom were his kicks returned. Begay, who covers the opponent's best receiver, had three interceptions. Slater, a two-way player, is an excellent blocker and technician with quick feet. He might even play

tight end. Jones, just a junior, is the latest good running back at a school noted for greatness at that position. With 4.5 speed on the carpet, he rushed for 522 yards and nine TDs. His catching and blocking ability make him a back to watch. Fullback Deyman Doolittle (5-11, 205) is a tough short yardage rusher and good blocker.

Other Eagles to watch include place kicker Bryce Solberg (6-0, 170), who made five field goals (two from 42 yards). He also plays wideout and defensive back. Receiver Kevin Lewis (5-11, 180) averaged 22.9 yards per reception. Cornerback Ben Johnson (5-10, 170, 4.6), just a junior, intercepted five passes and returns kicks. Safety Mike Allen (5-11, 165) collected five interceptions and is a top-flight receiver. Linebacker Kurtis DeMarse (6-1, 205) doubles at tight end. Center Zach Watts (6-0, 200) also starts at linebacker. Starters Jason Sitter (6-0. 210), Bobby Ramsey (6-3, 245), Malcom Smith (6-3, 248) and Adam Tanner (6-5, 210) give the Eagles more depth, size and experience than they've had in years.

Flag's non-league schedule is impressive, playing Glendale Apollo, Tucson Sabino, Scottsdale Chaparral, Moon Valley and Scottsdale Saguaro. "If we can be successful here, it should get us ready for region play," adds Holland.

In the north, one of the most consistent programs resides in Cottonwood. home of Mingus Union. After an 0-3 start, Bob Young's young crew won seven-straight. Big wins over Peoria and Flagstaff opened some eyes. Upcoming Agua Fria knocked them out in the playoffs, 30-17. This could be one of the Marauders best teams. Halfback Mike Rhorer (5-11, 170, 4.6) gained 693 yards and scored 14 touchdowns. He caught 34 passes for 559 yards, with the longest covering 80 yards. Ryan Stokes (6-1, 170) takes over at quarterback. He also starts in the secondary. Fullback Aaron Midkiff (5-10, 175) gained 751 yards. He joins Jason Kasper (6-0, 180) and Sam Short (6-3, 200) to form a solid linebacking corps, one of the best in the Grand Canyon. Tackles Tim Raban (6-3, 230) and Josh Good (6-3, 230) give the Marauders two of the better linemen in the league. Juniors expected to contribute include nose guard Nick Travers (5-10. 270), defensive end Nick Johnson (6-8, 280) and running back Matt Earls (5-7, 140, 4.6). Johnson, a transfer, is a possible Division-I prospect.

At **Flagstaff Sinagua** the growing pains may be over. After six-years of

1997 Northern Arizona Prep Poll

CLASS 4A

- 1. Flagstaff Eagles
- 2. Mingus Marauders
- 3. Sinagua Mustangs
- 4. Prescott Badgers
- 5. Coconino Panthers
- 6. Bradshaw Mountain Bears
- 7. Mohave Thunderbirds
- 8. Lake Havasu Knights
- 9. Page Sand Devils
- 10. Chinle Wildcats

CLASS 3A

- 1. Blue Ridge Yellowjackets
- 2. Snowflake Lobos
- 3. Show Low Cougars
- 4. St. Johns Redskins
- 5. Monument Valley Mustangs
- 6. Cactus Shadows Falcons
- 7. Fountain Hills Falcons
- 8. Payson Longhorns
- 9. Winslow Bulldogs
- 10. Round Valley Elks

CLASS 2A

- 1. Williams Vikings
- 2. Sedona Red Rock Scorpions
- 3. Hopi Bruins
- 4. Valley Pirates
- 5. Red Mesa Redskins

CLASS 1A

- 1. Orme Warriors
- 2. Mogollon Mustangs
- 3. Joseph City Wildcats
- 4. Fredonia Lynx
- 5. Mayer Wildcats

growth, Ed Campos has his Mustangs ready to go. Eighteen lettermen return, including several key seniors. The big gun is fullback/linebacker Jon Arnold (see cover), the school's 6-2, 220-pound all-state candidate. With senior Frank Perez (6-3, 210) lined up next to him on defense, Sinagua will be hard to run on. Perez, with 4.8 speed, also plays tight end. Dallas Wood (6-1, 235), Adam

flagstaff football '97

Zerger (6-3, 262), Micah Ormon (5-11, 200) and junior Jonah Bense (6-3, 282) give Sinagua plenty of experience on the line. Senior Matt Planeta (5-11, 165) gets the nod at quarterback. He'll have a big receiver to hook up with in junior Justin Byrd (6-3, 185, 4.7). Sophomore Jeremiah Miller (5-11, 170) is a promising two-way back.

Every Flagstaff school is on an upswing, and Coconino is no exception. Last year the Panthers (7-3) finished second in the region, but failed to compile enough playoff points to advance to the dance. Coach George Moate returns his guarterback and that's a big start. Robby Roberts (5-10, 160) completed 76 of 130 passes for 1,058 yards, 11 touchdowns and only three picks. But the player to watch is two-way back Randy Pryor (5-9, 175, 4.6), the Panthers' all-state candidate. He's a dandy. Little linebacker Regan Jirsa (5-10, 175) helped on 136 tackles. Joey Belmonte (5-8, 170) and junior Dennis Clinger (5-9, 175) join Jirsa to form a tough, mini-linebacking corps. Ben Shapiro (5-10, 165) and Jason Miller (6-1, 175) double at wide receiver and defensive back. Both have 4.8 speed. Senior Chad Cooper (6-3, 215) is the leader on the line. Juniors Mark Lee (6-3, 270) and Leander Begay (6-0, 190) flank

Up north, **Page** braced for a rough season and got it. The Sand Devils, 8-3 in '95, fell to 3-6-1. But lots of underclassmen played. The coaching staff is hoping linebacker Dana Cummings, running back/linebacker Kevin Floyd, defensive end John Napolitan, center David Ochoa, fullback Brett Cordson and tight end Jeff Hawkins learned and improved. Cummings is also the club's quarterback. Floyd, Napolitan and Ochoa have played varsity ball for three years.

Lots of underclassmen played at **Chinle**, too. Graduation took 18 Wildcats out of the lineup, but lots of experience returns, including five players who lettered as sophomores. Juniors-to-be include quarterback Daryl Dedman, split end Mikki Echikuwoke, flanker Donavan Benally, running back Anthony Sanford and defensive end Calvin Dominguez. All five played. Senior quarterback Hadrian Tsosie returns for one more year. But the line looks thin. Only Norman Burbank, Derrick Clauschee and Kevin Tso have varsity experience.

4A Desert Sky

Solid skill players, more experience,

flagstaff football '97

and a good senior class paint a bright picture for **Prescott** fans. Coach Bill White returns 16 players from a 5-5 squad. including defensive stalwarts Eddie Pena (6-2, 190), a deep back, and Mike Marioni (6-0, 195), a linebacker. Marioni recorded eight sacks. Center Andy Andrist (6-0, 235) goes both ways. Junior Layne Campbell (6-2, 205) should start at quarterback. If halfback Justin Davis (584 yards) moves back from Tennessee, the Badgers' stock will rise. Deep back Chris Espitia (5-9, 175) intercepted three passes. Fullback Greg Alvarez (6-2, 190) averaged 4.4 yards per carry.

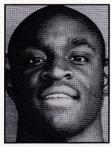
Skill players, always a strength at Bradshaw Mountain, will have to carry the Bears, which move into 4A for the first time. Junior quarterback Bill Eckle (6-5, 205) is at center-stage. He completed 38 of 78 passes for 659 yards and seven TDs. Running back Seth McKinnon (6-0, 185) rushed for 901 vards and eight TDs. Junior Joe Rosenblatt (6-2, 210) might be the Bears' best lineman. Classmate Sean Gatke (6-1, 270) is one of the biggest, along with tackle Cody Halliburton (6-1, 260). Junior Eric Oxborrow (6-1, 215) is a promising two-way tackle. Little Brad Richardson (5-7, 155) plays in both backfields.

4A West Valley

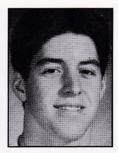
Bullhead City Mohave batted .500 but missed the playoffs. Coach Terry King returns 13 lettermen from a club (5-5) which played tough the last three games. But that was too late. Mosses Love, a 2,000-yard back, graduated. But two first team all-league picks return: safety Greg Young (5-10, 165) and two-way lineman Julian Perez (5-10, 230). Young will start at tailback. End David Baker (6-0, 190) is one of the team's better players. Guard Doug Strid (6-0, 190) and tackle Jason Anderson (6-1, 210) are key players, too. Receiver Jeff Nelson (5-10, 165), with 4.6 speed, is one of the Knights' quickest players. Two-way tackle Ryan King (6-4, 260) is definitely the biggest. Junior Kyle Reed (5-11, 170) gets the nod at guarterback.

4A Skyline

Back-to-back 3-7 campaigns greet **Lake Havasu** fans. The Knights coaching staff welcomes 60% of the team, including all-region lineman Dion Nelson (6-1, 192), a solid two-way player. Running back Ronnie Fleming (6-3, 188) and tight end Jason Thuneman (6-0, 180)



Mack Jones Flagstaff



David Jarvis St. Johns

are back. Only four regulars tip the scales at 200-plus pounds, so size - a lack of it - could be a problem.

3A Central

At Cactus Shadows, Gerry LaBelle's forces won back-to-back league championships, finishing 9-2 last year. They beat Coolidge in a playoff game but were knocked out by the Boys Ranch. Graduation cleaned out the roster. Still, seniors like James Ferguson (6-2, 220) and Axel Trainer (6-3, 205) are key players. Ferguson could be the school's best lineman ever. Trainer, a two-way back, could be the best kicker in the league. "He'll earn a college scholarship as a punter," claims LaBelle. "He's that good." Junior Joe Faraj (5-11, 170) gets the nod at guarterback, Eric Kraetz, Ryan Miller and Trainer form the Falcons' receiving corps. Josh Petrucci, David Anspach and Nathan Snell are improved linemen. "Depth will be a problem because of our light turnout of seniors," adds LaBelle, 73-45-2 at the Cave Creek school.

For the third straight year **Fountain Hills** reached the playoffs. But last year's trip (5-5) was short. State champ Blue Ridge blasted the Falcons, 62-0. Eleven underclassmen started, including Ryan Niesz (5-10, 160), Matt Butcher (6-1, 205) and Mike Pamiditts (5-11, 195), who went both ways. At 6-3, 245-pounds, Dan Moloney is the biggest Falcon in camp. Alex Johnson is an excellent kicker.

For **Payson** to improve its 3-6 mark, the development of the offensive line is critical. But the Longhorns, coached by former Snowflake mentor Jim Beall, look strong at the skill positions, although several starters, such as quarterback Hunter Walden, are underclassmen. The coaches think Walden, a slick 5-11, 175-pound junior, and halfback Tom Rauh (5-11, 180) will be standouts. Seniors Shane Davis (5-11, 185) and James Thole (5-

10, 180) anchor the line. Juniors like Blair River (6-4, 270) and James Black (6-3, 220) should help, and may soon start. Wideout Jake Sopeland (5-9, 145) and junior halfback Case Morris (5-8, 175) are starters.

3A East

It gets better and better at **Blue Ridge**, where the three-time state champs are gunning for four in a row. With a 39-game winning streak on the line, the Yellowjackets have a legitimate shot at St. Johns' unbeaten streak of 43 (see chart). Since last year the league has changed. Gone is the Arizona Boys Ranch, the school Blue Ridge has beaten in the last two state finals, as well as Payson. Both schools switched to the 3A Central. They were replaced by St. Johns and Alchesay.

Coach Paul Moro, 120-24-0 (.833) at the Lakeside school, returns 20 varsity players, including his quarterback and a runner who gained 1,695 yards and scored 24 TDs. Junior-to-be Nate Jackson (5-10, 160) completed 66% of his passes and is one of the best in the 3A ranks. Halfback Robert David (5-8. 170, 4.6) is the main ball carrier. Two allstaters return, including defensive back Cory Lizarraga (5-9, 155, 4.7), who doubles at receiver. Chad Ellis (5-10, 165) is another excellent defensive back. Tackle Chris Foster (6-3, 240) is one of the strongest players in the program. That's saying a lot. Junior safety Matt Allen (5-11, 178) bench presses 350 pounds. Linebacker Joe Bierer (6-0, 180) recorded 150 tackles. Center Ben Stidham (5-10, 210), another junior, doubles at nose guard. Offensive guard Eddie Goodman (6-0, 175) returns, along with starting tight end Kevin Phillips (6-2,200).

Sometimes, it's not good for your health to be a Yellowjacket fan. Last year's 13-0 club had four games decided inside the 10-yard line, two goal line stands and two winning field goals inside a minute to play. In the state finals they beat the Boys Ranch on a field goal on the last play of the game.

An October win over Winslow was a major turn-around for **Snowflake**, and the Lobos sailed into the playoffs, beating St. Johns 44-20 and Parker 44-26. State champ Blue Ridge ended their season at 6-6 with a 22-20 setback. If the passing game clicks, Snowflake might be back in the hunt. But who will play quarterback? That job probably will go to Brent Johnson, a 5-11, 165-pound senior. If so,

continued on page 13

Yesterday's Heroes

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Mesa halfback Don McClintock

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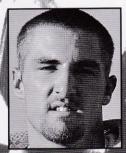
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Cody Price Westwood

- 1996 .. Cody Price, Mesa Westwood
- 1995 .. Steve Trejo, Casa Grande
- 1994 .. Jeff Johnson, Peoria
- 1993 .. Randy Hakes, Scottsdale Arcadia
- 1992 .. Jim Sprotte, Lakeside Blue Ridge
- 1991 .. Jon McGee, Tucson Sahuaro
- 1990 .. Aaron Franklin, Peorie
- 1989 .. Daniel Taplin, Tempe
- 1988 .. Luke Davis, Mesa Dobson
- 1987 .. Jeramiah Clark, Mesa
- 1986 .. Odel Stewart, Sierra Vista Buena
- 1985 .. Bob Davis, Mesa Mountain View
- 1984 .. Charles Matthews, Eloy Santa Cruz
- 1983 .. Tim Hicks, Sunnyslope
- 1982 .. Randall McDaniel, Agua Fria
- 1981 .. Darin Tupper, Phoenix Trevor Browne
- 1980 .. Jimmy Williams, Tempe
- 1979 .. Todd Shell, Mesa Mountain View
- 1978 .. Kurt Whiteman, Scottsdale
- 1977 .. Riki Gray, Tucson Amphitheater
- 1976 .. Riki Gray, Tucson Amphitheater (jr)
- 1975 .. Alan Edwards, Morenci
- 1974 .. Roark Shirley, Tempe Marcos de Niza
- 1973 .. Richard Rucker, Canyon del Oro
- 1972 .. Tim Peterson, Ajo 1971 .. Larry Gordon, Phoenix Union
- 1970 .. Bob Breunig, Phoenix Alhambra

- Bill Crowe, Tempe McClintock (ir)
- Larry Delbridge, Coolidge
- Jeff Quinn, Mesa Westwood
- 966 .. Jay Ray Rokey, Mesa Westwood
- 965 .. Bill Owsley, Phoenix North
- 964 .. Ron Hendrix, Camelback
- 1963 .. Dana Woudenberg, Arcadia
- 1962 .. Fred Carr, Phoenix Union (jr)
- 1961 .. Ross Shannon, Phoenix North
- 1960 .. Florence Chandler, Tucson
- 1959 .. Bob Olson, South Mountain
- 1958 .. Sam King, Mesa
- 1957 .. Art Acosta, Tucson
- 1956 .. Floyd Smith, Phoenix Union
- 1955 .. Allan Sandell, Phoenix North

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Dobson's Wild Horses Finish Strong

By LONNIE COLLINS

Apparently, it was Dobson's turn. Prior to the 1987 football campaign, every high school in Mesa had won a state championship except Dobson.

But Mike Clark's 51-man crew took care of that in a big way. Before 20,036 fans at Arizona State University, the Mustangs crushed rival Mountain View, and with surprisingly ease.

The score was 35-14.

"This is a great group of guys," said Clark after the win. "There is no most valuable player. I mean, they are all just great guys. Josh Arnold, T.C. Wright, Greg Boland, all of them. Emotionally, I'm 10 feet above the press box. This is the pinnacle of my coaching career."

Tailback Wright led all runners with 97 yards on 12 carries against the Toros. Fullback Boland rushed for 94 yards, and Arnold, a great two-way back who later starred at BYU, gained 81 yards.

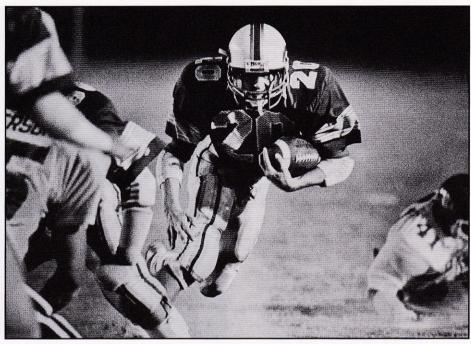
"Our offensive line is the best in the state," added Wright, whose younger brother Toby currently plays for the St. Louis Rams. "They've been doing it all year. They've never let us down."

Only twice, early in the season, did Dobson's backs drop the ball. Turnovers played big roles in two losses, 14-13 to Mountain View, and 26-12 to Mesa. But after that, only Tempe McClintock played the Wild Horses tough, falling 10-8 in October. Kicker Steve Rausch, who would later star at Arizona State, saved the day with a 45-yard field goal.

Then the Mustangs rolled. From November on, Clark's well oiled machine averaged 41.0 points to their opponents' 11.8, starting with a 35-14 rout of Tempe Marcos de Niza.

Wright scored on an 87-yard punt return, then blocked a punt and recovered it in the end zone, as Dobson finished the regular season with a 42-10 win over Tempe. Arnold rushed for 127 yards, including a 70-yard score, and Boland struck from 86 yards out.

The 'Horses sounded a warning bell in the playoff's first round - an easy 66-11 rout of Tucson Santa Rita. Rausch kicked a 48-yard field goal midway through the



Josh Arnold, an all-state back, breaks through a large hole in the line against Westwood (Phoenix Gazette photo).

first quarter to get Dobson on the board.

Playoff games were something new to Dobson, but against Santa Rita the Mustangs played like veterans. "We've been getting better," said Clark afterwards. "I feel like we have a great team, but we're going to have to do things better, like throw more, as we go along. But right now I feel real good."

Better than Santa Rita coach Will Kreamer. "We had that touchdown called back early, which really hurt, and after that the wheels fell off. I haven't seen many teams in that league (Central), but I don't see how they can be better that Dobson," he said. "If we had to lose, at least I feel better that we lost to a team I think will be the next state champions."

The playoff victory was the Mustangs' first in the school's short history. It wasn't its last. After a mediocre first-half perfor-

"Emotionally, I'm 10 feet above the press box. This is the pinnacle of my coaching career."

mance, the Dobson ground game kicked into gear and sliced through Moon Valley, 31-10. Rausch's foot was a big weapon, booting four extra points and a 47-yard field goal. Five of his six kickoffs landed in the Rockets' end zone, preventing returns.

Clark's club pounded Brophy in the semifinals, 37-12, before an overflow crowd of 8,000 at Westwood High. Arnold rushed for 146 yards and scored on a 65-yard interception return.

On the west side of town, before 8,000 fans at Glendale Community College, Mountain View's stingy secondary picked St. Mary's clean, intercepting quarterback John Bonds five times, as the Toros stopped the Knights, 21-18. It set up an all-Mesa finals for the first time in Arizona history.

After the season, Dobson reaped the rewards of victory. Between *The Phoenix Gazette & The Arizona Republic*, seven Mustangs landed first-team all-state berths. Clark was selected Arizona Coach of the Year. His Mustangs rushed for 4,004 yards and ground out 5,077 yards total offense. Ten years later, this Dobson squad is still one of the most productive in Mesa city history.

Peoria-Cactus Rivalry Biggest, Best

By JEFF KRIDER

The opponent was Cactus High, and a rematch was taking place in the '87 Class 4A finals, played at Arizona State.

Paybacks can be fun. Especially in athletic events. Especially the same year.

Peoria had another shot. Earlier in October, before 8,000-plus fans at Glendale College, Cactus handed the defending state champs its second consecutive loss, 28-14. One week earlier, Peoria fell one point short during a 14-13 loss to talented South Mountain, a larger 5A school.

By this time, the Cactus-Peoria rivalry had become one of the state's biggest and best. Always played at Glendale College and usually on city-wide TV, crowds estimated at 10,000 sometimes showed.

Coaches Doug Clapp at Peoria and Larry Fetkenhier of Cactus had the two hottest football programs on the "west side of town."

On a picture-perfect afternoon in Tempe, Peoria handed Cactus (12-1) its only loss, 28-6, giving the Panthers back-to-back state crowns for the first time ever.

In the 5A clash on the same field, Dobson trampled Mountain View 35-14 in an all-Mesa finals. Western Athletic Conference power BYU gobbled up two of Dobson's stars, halfback Josh Arnold and end Steve Holmes.

But the best and most talented team was probably Peoria, where college recruiters had a field day in February. No less than six Panthers landed college football scholarships: flanker Eric Guliford (Arizona State), end Steve Good (Stanford), linebacker Dusty Weiland (Iowa), guard Scott Peterson (Nebraska), halfback Marvin Johnson (New Mexico State), and deep back Ervin Cutright (Nevada-Reno).

The rematch in the finals was a complete reverse. In October, the Cobras' defense all but shut down Peoria, giving up two short scoring passes from William Babb to Good. But in December, Peoria's defense came to play, along with its explosive offense.

Cactus, which averaged 38 points a game, scored only in the second quarter, after recovering a fumble by Johnson, the state's leading scorer. Three plays later quarterback Kevin Standerfer passed to Jim Robinson for a 7-yard touchdown.



Marvin Johnson, who scored 30 touchdowns, runs for one of four against Sunnyslope, a 41-6 Panther win (Arizona Republic photo).

For Peoria, Babb passed for 217 yards, tossing two scoring strikes to Guliford, one covering 80 yards. Johnson made up for his lost fumble and scored twice on short runs, giving him 30 touchdowns on the season.

But the big play of the game was Babb's 80-yard strike to Guliford early in the game. That set the tone.

"It gave us a big edge," said Guliford, who in spite of his size (5-8, 160) played both college (Arizona State) and pro (Minnesota Vikings/Carolina Panthers) football. "We weren't upset we lost the first game, it was the way we lost. We knew we were capable of beating Cactus. We just had to show everybody we were capable of doing it."

While losing to South and Cactus early, Peoria was going through troubled times. "From a defensive standpoint, we had four starters out, half our defense,"

"Our offense is very similar to theirs. We run a lot of the same plays. But you can't just try to stop one player. They have so many weapons."

Clapp told The Arizona Republic.

"Quietly, our defense has built itself back into making us a good team. Defense is what's going to determine this game. We're going to have to keep them off the scoreboard."

In the loss to South, Guliford, who had returned three punts for touchdowns, played sparingly because of an ankle injury. The Panthers were out of step.

"Our offense is very similar to theirs," added Fetkenhier before the finals. "We run a lot of the same plays. But you can't just try to stop one player. They have so many weapons."

Peoria returned most of its big guns from a team which beat Agua Fria in the '86 finals. These two clubs met again in the '87 semis, won 21-16 by Peoria, thanks to a 66-yard return of a fumble by Marvin Cobbs. In the other matchup, Cactus scored two late TDs to topple Prescott, 14-10, setting up a rematch with the Panthers.

Two years earlier, Cactus had lost to Gilbert in the '85 finals, 27-0. Unfortunately for Cobra faithful, the '87 finals were similar.

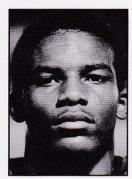
An interesting note was the performance of Peoria place kicker Tony Camino, who finished the season making 53 consecutive extra points.

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1995.... Mike Brown, Scottsdale Saguaro

1994.... Eric Johnson, Phoenix Alhambra

1993..... Corey Hill, Tucson Sabino

1992..... Mitchell Freedman, Phoenix Maryvale

1991..... James Richardson, Bradshaw Mountain (jr)

1990.... Eddie Cade, Eloy Santa Cruz

1989..... Billy Burris, Florence

1988.... Mike Salmon, Phoenix Greenway

1987..... Tyrone Byrd, Chandler

1986..... Nathan LaDuke, Phoenix Alhambra

1985..... Cleveland Colter, Jr., Tempe McClintock

1984..... John Giaspie, Phoenix Central

1983.... Anthony Parker, Tempe McClintock

1982..... Chuck Nixon, Phoenix Shadow Mountain

1981.... Shawn Benson, Mesa Mountain View

1980..... George Duarte, Tucson Sunnyside (jr)

1979..... Mossy Cade, Eloy Santa Cruz

1978..... Jeff Colter, Tucson Amphitheater

1977..... Charles Cobbs, Florence

1976.... Felix Kelson, South Mountain

1975..... David Given, Tempe McClintock

1974..... Harold Smith, Florence

1973..... Rob Wilson, Scottsdale Coronado

1972..... Carl Russell, McNary

1971..... Danny Smith, Safford (jr)

1970..... Derral Davis, Tucson

1969.... Dick Harris, Mesa Westwood (jr)

1968..... Joe Petroshus, Tucson

1967..... Rudy Quihuis, Tucson Pueblo

1966..... Bill Dipley, Scottsdale Arcadia

1965..... Bill Dipley, Scottsdale Arcadia (jr)

1964.... LeRoy Peoples, Marana

1963.... Earliest Nelson, South Mountain

1962.... James Dugan, Flagstaff (jr)

1961..... Elby Bushong, Phoenix Washington

1960..... Luther Harper, Phoenix Union

1959..... Jim Sims, Tucson (jr)

1958..... Dornel Nelson, South Mountain

1957..... Steve Vaughn, Phoenix North

1956..... Warren Livingston, Mesa

1955..... Warren Livingston, Mesa (jr)

1954.... Eddie Mitchell, Phoenix North

1953..... Charles Christopher, Phoenix Carver

1952..... Joel Favara, Tucson

1951.... Hadley Hicks, Bisbee

1950..... Gene Mitcham, Phoenix North

TYRONE BYRD, a three-sport star at Chandler High School between 1985-87, was a star defensive back at Nebraska and a projected high NFL draft pick whose career was halted by an automobile accident in 1993.

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Florence Grinds Out Perfect Season

By DAN KUKULSKI

Tom Mix and Tony the "Wonder Horse" thrilled movie goers for years. In 1994, longtime Florence residents were on hand to dedicate a roadside memorial to Mix, a star of silent Westerns, and Tony, his popular steed. Mix died in a car crash south of Florence in 1940.

Like many old Arizona towns, Florence has other historical landmarks, like the state prison, which originated in Yuma.

And the local high school.

In this Pinal County town, the popular sport of football originated in 1927, when head coach Vince Killerlain, a former Minnesota resident, guided the school's first squad. It was Killerlain's presence which led to the naming of the school's mascot, the Gophers.

During the Minnesota transplants first two seasons in the profession, the Gophers won only one game, a 7-0 win over Superior, played at the new Florence airport.

But times change. Football interest took off. Sixty years after the school's first game, Florence posted a perfect 13-0 record and knocked out Phoenix Christian in the 1987 Class 2A finals, 35-17. These Gophers were coached by Tom Shoemake.

The schools followed the same script two years earlier, when the two Central League powers met in the finals, only to have Christian upset the unbeaten Gophers, 17-7.

"The comparisons are real similar," PC coach Walt Beamis told *The Arizona Republic*. "They were 12-0 in 1985 and everyone thought they would be a shoo-in to win it."

"We're playing pretty good now," said Shoemake. "I thought we had the possibility of going all the way this year."

Florence had the most potent offense in Class 2A ball, scoring 445 points and grounding out 4,470 yards of real estate. All-state halfback Willie Smith, just a sophomore, rushed for 1,505 yards and scored 25 touchdowns. His biggest day: 250 yards and five TDs during a school record 89-8 slaughter of Seton Catholic High in Chandler.

Following a hard-fought win over Hayden the week before, Florence's Red & White machine hopped back with a passion. "The game, played in Chandler, pitted a spaced-out Gopher crew against



Shoemake, who coached for 11 seasons in two different stints, won three state championships (Florence Blade-Tribune).

a smaller but spirited Seton team," wrote Jac Polsgrove of the *Florence Reminder*. "Florence's size and experience, not the team's attention to on-field action, saved the game for the Gophers."

Florence's lack of attention was best illustrated when senior Frenchie Taylor picked up a Seton fumble and proceeded to dash 76 yards downfield - into the wrong end zone. He then ran 42 yards back toward Seton's goal once he realized his mistake, but officials had already decided to grant the Sentinels a safety.

The Gophers had taken a 21-0 lead before "Wrong Way" Taylor did his 118-yard tour of the field. Paradoxically, Taylor had put Seton points on the scoreboard for the first time this season.

Shoemake, who would coach two different stints at FHS, knew he had a championship-caliber club after four impressive wins in September: 41-0 over

... The Gophers had taken a 21-0 lead before "Wrong Way" Taylor did his 118-yard tour of the field. Coolidge, a larger 3A school, 22-0 over Eloy Santa Cruz, 44-7 over outmanned Ajo, and the hard-fought win over Havden.

Running and throwing, Joey Mariscal, who would pass for 1,107 yards on the season, accounted for four touchdowns against Coolidge.

Smith's 86-yard kickoff return got the train on track against Eloy, and the Gophers' stingy defense picked off three passes on way to the rout of Ajo.

Mariscal's short field goal sealed Hayden's fate. Then came the Seton debacle.

During a 55-0 rout of Queen Creek, the Gophers scored 42 points in the first half. The secondary intercepted a school record six passes, three by Lance Gardner.

This set the stage for the first meeting with Phoenix Christian, a 15-7 Gopher triumph with Smith scoring twice. During a 35-0 win over Superior, the Gophers secondary, led by sophomore Billy Burris, stole five enemy aerials.

In the rematch with PC, young Smith, who would drop out of school before his junior year, rushed for 223 yards on 29 carries He scored on an 87-yard run as Florence ground out 424 yards.

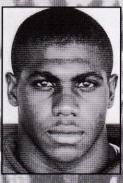
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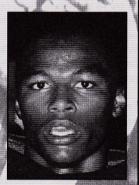
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HONORING ARIZONA'S BEST HIGH SCHOOL RUNNING BACK

1996.....Kyran Jones, Peoria (jr)

1995....Mike Brown, Scottsdale Saguaro

1994.....Tavon Cooper, Peoria

1993.....Robert Holcombe, Mesa

1992....Mike Mitchell, Phoenix Brophy Prep

1991 Chris Hopkins, Tucson Salpointe

1990.....Mario Bates, Tucson Amphi

1989....Brian Drew, Tempe McClintock

1988.....Michael Bates, Tucson Amphi

1987.....Kevin Galbreath, Phoenix Maryvale

1986.....Reggie McGill, Phoenix St. Mary's

1985 Cleveland Colter, Jr., Tempe McClintock

1984.....David Winsley, Flagstaff (jr)

1983.....Paul Kasprzyk, Mesa Mountain View

1982.....Glenn Rogers, Agua Fria

1981Stan Gill, Flagstaff

1980....Fred Sims, Tucson Sunnyside

1979.....Fred Sims, Tucson Sunnyside (jr)

1978....Mike Cade, Eloy Santa Cruz

1977.....Alvin Moore, Coolidge

1976.....Willard Reeves, Flagstaff Coconino

1975....Brian Felix, Phoenix Union

1974.....David Mitchell, Phoenix St. Mary's (jr)

1973.....Ronnie Bonner, Mesa Westwood (jr)

1972.....Jesse Parker, Tucson Rincon

1971....Manuel Jones, Phoenix Union

1970.....Don Washington, Agua Fria (jr)

1969.....Benny Malone, Eloy Santa Cruz

1968.....Joe Petroshus, Tucson

1967....Tim Smith, Phoenix St. Mary's

1966.....Bob Soza, Mesa Westwood

1965 Art Malone, Eloy Santa Cruz

1964.....LeRoy Peoples, Marana

1963.....James Dugan, Flagstaff

1962....Everett "Moose" Rollins, Scottsdale Arcadia

1961....Andy Livingston, Mesa

1960.....Jim Sims, Tucson

1959.....Bob Olson, South Mountain

1958.....Lewis Albright, Scottsdale

1957.....Clay Freney, Globe

1956.....Warren Livingston, Mesa

1955....George Greathouse, Phoenix Union

1954.....George Greathouse, Phoenix Union (jr)

1953....Kenny Aycock, North Phoenix

1952....Joel Favara, Tucson

1951.....Hadley Hicks, Bisbee

1950....Don Beasley, Mesa

1949.....Danny Seivert, Phoenix St. Mary's

1948.....Gib Dawson, Douglas

1947.....Marvin Wahlin, Casa Grande

1946.....Whizzer White, Mesa

WHIZZER WHITE, a 1946 high school All-American, was a three sport star at both Mesa High and Arizona State University, and later played in the National Football League with the Chicago Bears.

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McClintock Finally Reaches The Top

By LONNIE COLLINS

Tempe McClintock head coach Karl Kiefer had it all figured out. "We're going to try to dominate them on the line," he told *The Arizona Republic*, moments before his teams' clash with Phoenix Washington in the 1977 large school finals. "The greatest defense against the pass is a good rush.

"We'll blitz them. We'll stunt. As far as I'm concerned, it's stupidity to sit back and wait fro them to pass. We'll be very aggressive."

The main object of attention was Washington's heralded passer, quarter-back Mike Pagel, the soon-to-be player of the year who would later play at Arizona State, and start for the NFL Baltimore Colts as a rookie.

It was the Chargers' line play which led to a hard-fought 14-9 triumph, played before 14,900 at Arizona State. Both teams were making their first appearance in the finals. Washington finished 12-2. McClintock finished 14-0, after nearly one decade of exceptional play and nearmisses in the playoffs.

"We've been knocking on the door for a long time," said Kiefer afterwards. "We've had some good teams before, but we always seemed to lose the big games. I hope we've finally put that behind us."

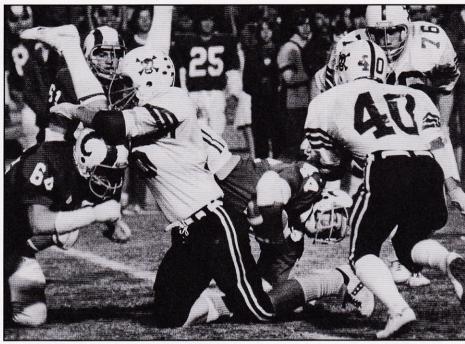
"They really put on a pass rush," said Pagel, who finished with 1,750 yards on the season. "They were getting a good rush, and when I did get away, I couldn't find anyone to throw to."

Pagel landed co-player of the year honors with Tucson Amphi linebacker Ricki Gray, later a star with the Oakland Raiders and San Francisco 49ers. But McClintock had a good field general of its own, junior Rick Neuheisel, who would later win MVP honors at the Rose Bowl, playing for UCLA.

The Chargers' game winning drive was sparked by a third-down pass from Neuheisel to tight end Doug Garrett, covering 26 yards and giving McClintock a first-down-and-goal at the Rams' 10 yard line. Two plays later, fullback Todd Greer smashed over for the winning score. On the night, Greer gained 131 yards on 23 carries

Washington took a fourth quarter lead after Dave Wood's 40-yard field goal. Earlier, Pagel hit John Ross with a 22-yard scoring strike.

"We've played teams with big lines



McClintock defenders, including Todd Greer (40) and Curtis McGahn (76), swarm Washington fullback Dave McKee (44).

before," said Washington head coach Dave Swerdfeger afterwards. "But not one with players as big and quick as they were. They're a great team. To come back the way they did proved they're champions."

Kiefer's Chargers finished 9-1 in 1976, 10-1 in 1975, and 8-2 in 1974. His 1969 club, led by All-American linebacker Bill Crowe (University of Texas), advanced to the large school semis, only to lose to Phoenix St. Mary's. But the most disheartening loss came in the '75 playoff opener, a 15-14 loss to Scottsdale Saguaro. That Charger club, led by all-state quarterback David Given and All-America wide receiver Ronnie

"We've been knocking on the door for a long time. We've had some good teams before, but we always seemed to lose the big games. I hope we've finally put that behind us."

Washington, was considered the school's best ever, and entered the playoffs ranked No. 1 in the state.

But in 1977, the playoff chips fell into place, starting with a brutal 10-7 battle with surprisingly tough Casa Grande. In that contest, McClintock lost running back/linebacker David Hinds for the rest of the season.

One week later, before an overflow crowd of 8,000 at Glendale College, the Chargers faced unbeaten St. Mary's. McClintock rallied for a 24-7 win after the Knight's Joe Allen returned a kickoff 96-yards for a score. Before Allen's sprint, Tony McClure got the Chargers on the board with a 28-yard field goal. From then on the winners controlled the line of scrimmage.

The semifinals pitted McClintock against Phoenix Maryvale, and Washington against Tucson Amphi; a double-header clash at Sun Devil Stadium. Both were hard-tough affairs, with McClintock prevailing 7-0 on a solo touchdown jaunt by Todd Greer.

Post-season honors rolled in for the Chargers, with end Kris Kentera, tackle Curtis McGhan, guard Steve Houston, linebacker Ron Thomas, deep back Mark Massey and Hinds landing first team all-state honors.

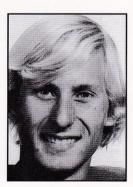
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1993..... Matt Belden, Glendale (PK)

1992..... Marcus Williams, Tempe McClintock (PK)

1991.... (TIE) Matt Peyton, Tucson Sahuaro (PK)

...... Dominic DeMark, Prescott (P)

1990..... Cole Ford, Tucson Sabino (PK)

1989..... Terry Belden, Glendale (P)

1988..... Jeff Black, Tucson Sahuaro (PK)

1987..... Steve Rausch, Mesa Dobson (PK)

1986..... Quin Rodriguez, Mesa Dobson (PK)

1985..... Mike Cortright, Phoenix St. Mary's (PK)

1984.... (TIE) Mike Schuh, Mesa Mountain View (P)

...... Phil Insalaco, Phoenix Christian (PK)

1983..... Dean Roney, Winslow (PK)

1982.... Richard Jones, Scottsdale Chaparral (PK)

1981.... Jerry Necoechea, Bisbee (P)

1980..... Jerry Necoechea, Bisbee (P)

1979.... Dave Wood, Phoenix Washington (PK)

1978..... Matt McKinney, Scottsdale Saguaro (PK)

1977..... Bill Zivic, Tucson Palo Verde (PK)

1976..... Kevin Rutledge, Gilbert (P)

1975.... Monte Varah, Scottsdale Saguaro (PK)

1974.... Gary Williams, Lakeside Blue Ridge (P)

1973.... Lee Pistor, Phoenix Central (PK)

1972..... Pat Whitehurst, Phoenix North (P)

1971..... Pat Hawbaker, Phoenix St. Mary's (P)

1970..... Jeff Hernandez, Miami (PK)

1969..... Danny White, Mesa Westwood (PK)

1968..... Cleveland Colter, Marana (PK)

1967.... (TIE) Luis Vega, Phoenix West (PK)

...... Marty Shuford, Scottsdale Saguaro (P)

1966..... Luis Vega, Phoenix West (PK)

1965..... Jim McCann, Phoenix North (P)

1964..... Ron Hendrix, Phoenix Camelback (PK)

1963.... Sam Maya, Glendale (PK)

1962.... Tom Lindsey, Marana (P)

1961..... Tom Crater, Gilbert (P)

1960..... Jon Chesser, Mesa (PK)

1959.... Bob Olson, South Mountain (PK)

1958..... Dornel Nelson, South Mountain (PK)

1957.... Eddie Wilson, Chandler (P)

1956.... Chubby Nottingham, Coolidge (P)

1955..... Art Bruce, St. Johns Indians (P)

1954..... Chester Beach, Ajo (P)

1953..... Jack Denton, Phoenix North (P)

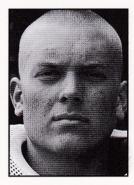
1952..... Gordon Phegley, Thatcher (PK)

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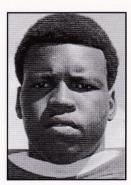
John Tait McClintock



Chris Watkins Highland



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Ralph Zarate Tucson

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1996 (TIE) Ralph Zarate, Tucson (OT)
...... Brian Kula, Phoenix Brophy Prep (DL)
1995 Chris Watkins, Gilbert Highland (DL)
1994 Matt Griffith, Mesa (NG)
1993 Todd Thompson, Tucson Sahuaro (DL)

1992 John Tait, Tempe McClintock (OT) 1991 Willie Walker, Tucson Desert View (DL)

1990 Grady Stretz, Tempe McClintock (DL) 1989 Mike Ciasca, Tucson Sahuaro (OT)

1988 Eric Ipock, Peoria (OT)

1987 Richard Griffith, Tucson Catalina (DL)

1986 Tim Landers, Round Valley (DT)

1985 Gary Pay, Glendale Apollo (OT) 1984 Vincent Byrd, Eloy Santa Cruz (DT)

1983 Steve Spurling, Scottsdale Horizon (C)

1982 Richard Bear, Moon Valley (DT)

1981 Frank Rudolph, Scottsdale Coronado (DL)

1980 Tom Briehl, Phoenix Gerard (T)

1979 Dave Wood, Phoenix Washington (DL)

1978..... Doug Kellermeyer, Scottsdale Coronado (DL)

1977 Marty Van Gorder, Chandler (C)

1976 Jack Housely, Phoenix Maryvale (DL)

1975 Phil Hedrick, Phoenix Maryvale (T)

1974 Jimmy Moore, Tempe Marcos de Niza (DL)

1973 Jon Abbott, Phoenix Central (T)

1972 Keith Sobraske, Scottsdale Coronado (T)

1971 Mike Dawson, Tucson (T)

1970 Glen Gresham, Phoenix Union (OT)

1969 Roger Kronberg, Tempe (OT)

1968 Fernie Mendoza, Tucson Salpointe (T)

1967 Ken Hatcher, Mesa (C)

1966 Bill Dawson, Tucson (T)

1965 Bill Dawson, Tucson (T) jr.

1964 Richard Griffin, Mesa Westwood (OT)

1963 Curley Culp, Yuma (MG)

1962 (TIE) Gary Swift, Scottsdale Arcadia (T)

...... Bob Bertelsen, Scottsdale Arcadia (T)

1961 Allen Thorn, Phoenix St. Mary's (C)

1960 Ted Lawrence, South Mountain (G)

1959 Dennis Couse, Tucson (T)

1958 Stacey Ostland, South Mountain (C)

1957 Wayne Magnusson, Phoenix West (G)

1956 John Vucichevich, Miami (C)

1955 Sumner Smith, Phoenix Union (T)

1954 Al Carr, Phoenix Union (G)

1953 Dick Nordmeyer, Tucson (DT)

1952 Guy Barrickman, Tucson (T)

1951 Robert Green, Phoenix Carver (T) jr.

1950 Glenn Bowers, Mesa (G)

1949 Phil Russell, Phoenix St. Mary's (T)

1948 Roy Alba, Phoenix Union (G)

BRIAN MURRAY, a 1972 Salpointe H.S. grad, was a three-year starter at Arizona, and projected as a high NFL draft pick, but was killed in a fall at Redington Pass, between the Catalina and Rincon mountains, in 1977.

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St. Mary's King of Football

By JEFF KRIDER

The scoreboard told it all: St. Mary's 34, Tucson Pueblo 22. The little Catholic school, located in downtown Phoenix, had done it. For the first time since 1949, the Knights were King of Football in the Grand Canyon State.

Looking on at the University of Arizona, and unbelieving crowd of 13,000 watched Ed Doherty's small, feisty club manhandle bigger Pueblo and make a clean sweep of the state.

St. Mary's jumped to a 21-9 first quarter lead and never looked back. All-state fullback Tim Smith, whose jersey number (40) was retired after the game, was the night's leading rusher, blasting his way for 139 yards on 29 carries. Junior quarterback Bill Mannion hit end Greg Anderson four times for 132 yards and a key first half TD.

It cooled down in the second half. St. Mary's struck to ball control with the running game. Mannion threw no passes. Pueblo quarterback Frank Fernandez hit 10 of 24 for 234 yards and two scores, but it wasn't enough. The score stood at 34-15 at the half. St. Mary's had arrived as a true football power.

"This is impossible, it's got to be," said Smith, who finished with a school record 1,720 yards and 25 touchdowns on the season. "Just two years ago we were only a little school down the street. Now we're state champs!"

St. Mary's took advantage of an ankle injury to Pueblo's key defensive player, halfback Rudy Quihuis, who had intercepted a state record 18 passes during the season. He was ineffective.

When Pueblo started a comeback, senior Joe Vales, a 175-pound tackle, halted a Warriors drive with an interception. Then Smith recovered a Pueblo fumble on a St. Mary's punt. "Pueblo was the best offensive team we played all year," added Jim Ewen, at 145-pounds one of the smallest players on the Knights' 30-man roster.

"We couldn't match them in size or speed, but we sure matched them in guts," said Doherty after the game. "Our guys are small and slow, but great."



Smith rushed for a school record 1,720 yards and scored 25 TDs.

The Knights' defense provided the margin of victory. Recovered fumbles, interceptions, clutch tackles. It all fell into place.

But the seed was planted two years earlier, when the school hired Doherty, a former head coach at both Arizona and Arizona State. It paid off quick, as the Knights won the Skyline Division crown in 1966 and advanced to the state semifinals.

But that campaign ended with a thud, a devastating 34-0 loss to nationally ranked Tucson High. The difference that night was speed and bruising line play, headed by the bone-crushing blocks and

"This is impossible, it's got to be! Just two years ago we were only a little school down the street. Now we're state champs!"

tackles by Tucson's trenchmen.

"I've had some long nights in this stadium, and this was one of them," said Doherty. "Tucson High is by far the best football team we've played. They're incomparable. They're just great."

But one year later it was different. St. Mary's provided the hurt. Throughout the '67 campaign, the Knights seldom faced anyone their own size or speed, but they didn't meet anyone who could match them in desire or determination.

They sounded a warning bell early, a 12-0 victory over Tucson Salpointe. Flanker Greg Anderson was a standout, intercepting three passes and making key tackles to keep Salpointe contained.

Led by the 210-pound Smith, St. Mary's then rolled through Glendale, 20-7. They scored in every period and routed Paradise Valley, 48-0. Smith gained 208 yards as the Knights won their third shutout in four games, a 26-0 win over Phoenix Union.

After St. Mary's speared Washington 19-6, half the regular season was over and the Knights were still undefeated, and ranked No. 2 in the state. Smith, who carried the ball 28 times, and little Joe Fierros were the workhorses

St. Mary's then clobbered Sunnyslope, 28-7. Moon Valley succumbed 25-7, setting up a key match with rival Brophy Prep. Anderson hauled in touchdown passes covering 10 and 66 yards and the Knights prevailed, 34-12.

During a 41-7 rout of Prescott, Smith toted the ball 30 times for 201 yards as the Knights rolled. The Badgers' chances for a playoff spot disappeared in the dust. One week later Doherty's club wrapped up the league crown with tough 14-0 victory over Cortez. Smith gained 192 of St. Mary's 227 yards rushing and scored both touchdowns.

Before 8,000 fans at Glendale College, Washington fell 28-12, stung by two tackle eligible plays. Both worked for touchdowns. One week later St. Mary's posted a tight 20-14 win over Camelback in the state semifinals, before 11,568 fans at Sun Devil Stadium in Tempe, setting the stage for a matchup with Lou Farber's Pueblo Warriors.

Mesa's Repeat a Surprise

By SKIP BRYANT

It truly was the lazy days of summer in the Valley of the Sun in 1947. But when Labor Day weekend rolled around, dramatic changes took place - summer vacations ended, schools started again and the long awaited first day of football practice arrived.

As the Mesa High football team assembled, fresh from a state championship campaign in 1946, coaches, players and fans had every reason to envision another big season.

Mesa had long since arrived as a consistent force. Across the 1930s, the Jackrabbits averaged over eight wins per season, and now, well into the 1940s, they were still winning at least eight games a year. In fact, Mesa was coming off three straight nine-win seasons, with schedules that included Texas schools.

The winning tradition, established by coach Steve Coutchie over an 18 year stint, was in the capable hands of a rising Arizona prep coaching star, Edgar "Mutt" Ford

Only big city schools Phoenix Union and Tucson had ever repeated. Ironically, as good as Mesa had been between 1930 and 1946, it had just two state titles to show for it.

Also helping to keep repeat talk subdued was the obvious: Two-time all-state tailback Wilford "Whizzer" White was now a freshman at Arizona State. "When Wilford graduated we lost our backfield," recalled Bill Workman, an all-state center in '46, and destined to repeat in '47.

"I spent a lot of time handing off to Whizzer," added three year starting quarterback Dan Russell, who also would make the '47 all-state team. "He was quite a player, a great athlete. After Whizzer left, everyone thought we'd have nothing left."

Russell was the only starter returning in the backfield. On the line, only Workman and right tackle Gene Johnston returned as starters.

As it turned out, Ford had all the right answers. It didn't take long for preseason question marks to turn into exclamation points.

Charging out of the gate, the 'Rabbits rolled through their first four games. Safford was crushed, 39-12, as Mesa rushed for 408 yards. North High fell, 26-13; Mesa stopped El Paso Bowie 14-



Quarterback Dan Russell and head coach "Mutt" Ford.

0, and St. Mary's was edged 12-6.

Ford had retooled the offensive line with new faces around Workman and Johnston, the most prominent being tackle/kicker Gary Feezor. Ford went to the air more frequently. Russell and '47 all-state end Bill Glazier became one of the best pitch-catch teams in Mesa history.

"I thought he'd (Glazier) be too small, but he started to put on some size that year," Russell said about his all-state battery mate. "He had the ability to catch them where I threw them. He could reach around and make those fabulous catches. He was guite an athlete."

Russell would throw 15 touchdown passes, and Glazier was on the receiving end of 10, including two in the fourth quarter when Mesa rallied to beat St. Mary's. Dick Stowe started at tailback, but a junior, Don McClintock, came on to take over the spot, scoring nine touchdowns.

"We called him (McClintock) "Ducky" because of the way he waddled around and through teams for yards," Workman said. "He was more of a power runner than Wilford."

Four straight wins set the stage for the lone '47 meeting with arch-rival Tucson. It was Mesa that ended the Badgers' run of four straight state titles in 1946, and for 46 minutes it looked like it had the Badgers' number again.

"We were leading late in the game and they sent in John Carroll at quarterback," Russell remembers. "In substituting they set up a sleeper play and completed it for a touchdown."

So the 'Rabbits left Tucson with a 7-7 tie. It would be the only blemish on a near-perfect 10-0-1 record. But three close calls remained. After Glendale was smoked 39-7, Mesa was able to salvage back-to-back one point victories.

A tough Yuma squad was nipped 14-13, with Feezor's two extra points deciding the hard fought contest. A week later McClintock and Stowe each rushed for a score, Russell and Glazier teamed on another and Feezor added two extra points as El Paso High was edged, 20-19.

Two easy victories, 26-6 over Phoenix Union and 26-7 over Bisbee, set the stage for the seasonal finale against Tucson Amphitheater. A win would give Mesa its first unbeaten season in the school's history.

What was expected to be a rout ended up a cliffhanger, with the 'Rabbits finally prevailing, 20-14.

"We had no outstanding players but we worked together as a unit," said Workman. "Ford made it all work and we had the championship season of 1946 to build on. There was no playoffs then but we were champions because we played and beat the other schools that were in contention."

Adds Russell, "I think we surprised a lot of people. I know (our season) surprised me. It was a case of playing well together as a team."

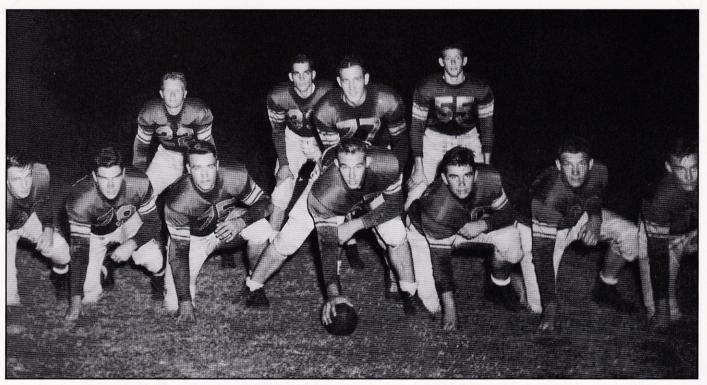
The Jackrabbits' 1946-47 titles remain landmark achievements. Fifty years later none of the Mesa schools (four have joined Mesa along the way) have been able to put together back-to-back state championships, failing 14 times.

Perhaps fittingly, opportunity number 15 presents itself this fall, 50 autumns later. Entering the 1997 campaign, Mountain View, with Workman's grandson Tate Gunning returning at quarterback, is heavily favored to repeat its 1996 Class 5A title.



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Coach Edgar "Mutt" Ford's near-perfect 10-0-1 squad defeated two Texas schools, and Yuma 14-13 for the 1947 state championship.

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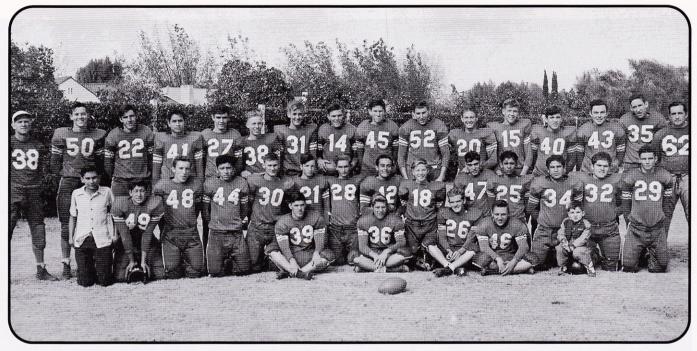
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1947 BUFFALO RESULTS (9-0-0)

| Buffaloes | 12Ca | sa Grande 6 |
|------------------|------|-------------|
| Buffaloes | 19 | Miami 0 |
| Buffaloes | 13 | Prescott 6 |
| Buffaloes | 39 | Buckeye 6 |
| Buffaloes | 7 | Superior 6 |
| Buffaloes | 13 | Glendale 6 |
| Buffaloes | 33 | Ajo 6 |
| Buffaloes | 26 | Chandler 13 |
| Buffaloes | 25 | Coolidge 6 |

Tempe Wins on "Jim Sparks Night."



Buffaloes' Pete Ruiz (44), Carl Miller (36), Jim McRoy (30) and Billy Barnes (43) chase down a Coolidge ball carrier.

On Nov. 29, 1947, at historic Goodwin Stadium, on the campus of Arizona State College, Tempe High's Buffaloes made it nine straight victories, walloping the Coolidge Bears, 25-6.

The season was a far cry from the 4-7 finish at nearby Arizona State.

Close to 3,000 fans witnessed the game, plus the half-time ceremonies, which honored Jim Sparks ("Jim Sparks Night"), who died earlier from injuries suffered in football practice.

With the win came the mythical Class B state title. The most successful Buff season in history had been postponed from October 3, the date of Sparks' death. Proceeds went to his family.

The game was played with the American flag at half-mast. During half-time, the Buffalo marching band formed "Jim" on the playing field, and tackle Bobby Fram sang the hit song "My Buddy."

After the game, players hauled their coaches off the field. Two carried head coach Hascall Henshaw, but it took six players to take care of hefty Bill Boyle, the line coach.

Like the previous eight games, Tempe rolled up a three touchdown lead before

the opposition crossed midfield. Henry Hammer cut loose with a spectacular 48-yard jaunt for the first Buff TD. Bobby Wood scored on a short run, then Ben Elkins hit junior Roy Coppinger for a score. Coppinger, later a basketball and baseball star at Arizona State, later tallied the final TD.

Henshaw, who won 70% of his games at Tempe, offered a simple answer for all the success: "They win because they're happy. These kids sing and laugh before every game. You never saw such morale. It's real team play that has brought us along."

The cheerful one-time all-conference halfback at Arizona State, and a former schoolboy star in Tombstone, hesitated to rate one of his players above another. "This is a team," he said. "No individual stars."

But the general opinion is that the Buffs' star end, Coppinger, is as good as any found in the high school ranks. Quarterback Elkins is the big brain of a smart, little ball club, which averaged 158-pounds across the line.

Henshaw, who died in 1996, rated all his lightweight ball carriers, especially 160-pound fullback Bob Wood, as equally valuable. Every other back weighed less than 150 pounds, just like Henshaw himself, a 139-pound college back. When he and Boyle played at Arizona State, the school's mascot was a "Bulldog." These two played like it.

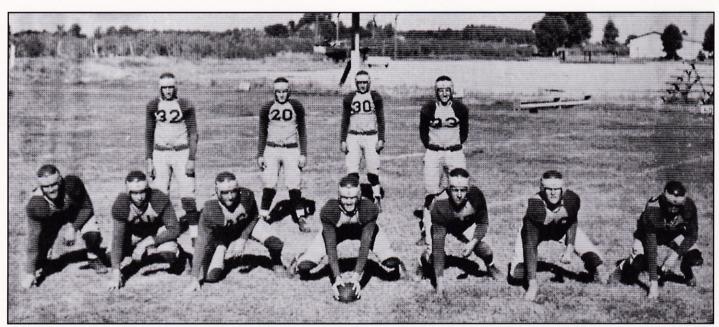
As a scatback on Dixie Howell's two Sun Bowl teams, Henshaw ran the Border Conference ragged. He performed such feats as dropping a kickoff, picking it up on the bounce and scoring. He once scored on a 94-yard run from scrimmage in the Sun Bowl.

In 1947, three different Arizona newspapers selected all-state squads. Fram, Coppinger, Elkins and center Alonzo Holmes were mentioned.

Two Class B coaches, Henshaw and Tucson Amphitheater's Murl McCain, were voted outstanding prep mentors by fellow coaches. The 30-year old Henshaw refused to take all the credit for his success.

He gave most of the credit to Boyle, his assistant. The Buffs employed a T-formation and were stronger in the second half than the first. Defensively, only one school, Chandler, scored more than one TD against them. The Buffs beat the Wolves 26-13.

Buckeye's Backs Just Too Much



L-R, Buckeye linemen John Parker, Robert Weskamp, Bill Johnson, John Butler, Keith Rice, Tom Cantrell and Elmer Shepard blocked for backs Murray Johnson, Tommy Jones, Dan Rogers and Walter Wade.

Buckeye, founded in 1888 and located 30 minutes west of Phoenix, has withstood floods, droughts and economic changes. Still, this small Arizona settlement managed to transform the hot desert land into a green and productive valley.

The town was incorporated in 1929, and included 440 acres. That same year the local high school, the Buckeye Union Wildcats, laced up their football shoes and hit the gridiron running.

Three months later Chester Vaughn's once beaten squad was the toast of Arizona's Class B ranks, thanks to a 25-7 post season win over Phoenix Brophy Prep. Only Phoenix Union, a Class A school with an enrollment exceeding 3,000 students, managed to beat the Wildcats. Fullback Lewis Burke landed votes on *The Arizona Republican* all-state squad.

Soon, football became so popular in Buckeye that new bleaches were added to handle the increasing crowds. Year after year, Buckeye was a contender for the "Little 7" crown, a league which featured the Hawks, Casa Grande, Glendale, Tempe, Chandler, Peoria and Gilbert.

By 1937, first year coach Chet Fuller had a real juggernaut on his hands, and a school with a new mascot. Fans of the state's largest college, the University of Arizona, objected to another state school using the Wildcat mascot. Thus Buckeye became the "Hawks."

With captain Tommy Jones, the Hawks' slick quarterback, and a supporting cast including flashy junior halfback Dan Rodgers, Fuller's squad knifed its way through nine opponents, undefeated and almost untested. They pitched six shutouts.

In the season opener, a 38-7 rout of Casa Grande, the Hawks' backfield rolled for 425 rushing yards. Rodgers scored on sprints from 85 and 55 yards out. Quarterback Jones scored three times and hit end Walter Wade for another. Rogers scored every touchdown during a 27-0 shutout of Coolidge, and all but one during a 20-0 pasting of Peoria. He showed his versatility during a 26-7 win over the Phoenix Indians, sending a 62-yard quick kick dead at the two.

The finale against Glendale was a classic defensive struggle, with the Hawks prevailing, 14-0. Rodgers set the tone

"... I played with so many great players. Especially the entire team of 1937. Every member of that team deserves recognition."

with a 70-yard punt return for a score, then sealed the Cardinals' fate with a short run to the end zone. Wade tacked on two extra points.

End John Parker, tackle Robert Weskamp and Rodgers earned all-state acclaim. Jones and guard Bill Johnson were honorable mention picks.

After the season, Rodgers, Jones, Parker, Johnson and Weskamp were selected to the first Arizona all-star prep squad to represent the state in intersectional competition. Against the Chicago All-Stars, in the first Valley of the Sun Classic, the visitors from the Windy City edged Arizona 9-6 on a last minute field goal.

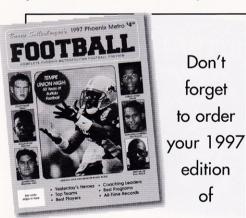
One year later, Rodgers finished his career as the most productive rusher and scorer in Buckeye's short history. To this day Rodgers, along with future all-state backs Ronnie Rainey, Gloyes Lemons, Jerry Bridgeman and Gerald Brown, are considered the school's all-time best players.

"My years in Buckeye taught me many things, and certainly helped me keep both feet on the ground," said Rodgers recently from his home in Fresno. "It's such a great honor to be thought of and remembered, because I played with so many great players. Especially the entire team of 1937. Every member of that team deserves recognition."

continued from page 12

he'll have two speedy receivers to throw to, wideouts Alby Bryant (6-0, 180) and little Dennis Simmon (5-6, 155). Two-way linemen Jason Owens (6-0, 205) and Steven Smith (5-10, 180) started. Owens is just a junior. Defensive back Trever Wilkins (6-0, 177) and halfback Dustin Roth (6-0, 185) are two of the better players in the region. Roth also plays defensive end. Snowflake is within two or three years of becoming the fourth northland school to win 400 football games (see chart).

The best season in **Show Low's** history ended in the semifinals of the state playoffs. The Boys Ranch beat the Cougars in a rematch and ended a great ride at 10-2. Graduation took a 2,000-yard back, but several key players, some all-region candidates, return. The game starts at quarterback and senior Cory Seymore is back. He completed 74 of 127 passes for 1,255 yards and 10 scores. Only four passes were picked. During a 33-29 loss to Blue Ridge, Seymore threw for a school record 384 yards and three TDs. Halfback Tyrel



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4115 E. Catalina Drive Phoenix, AZ 85018 (602) 955-3303 Garvin averaged 11.4 yards per carry, gaining 979 yards and scoring eight times. He's a three year starter. Kamran Moghadam (5-6, 130) is a speedy little flanker. Defensively, tackle Carl Vance recorded 76 tackles, three fumble recoveries and six sacks. He bench presses 325 pounds and runs a 4.7 forty. Junior linebacker Travis Bell (6-0, 190) led the team in tackles. Center Todd Gardner (5-9, 200) starts each play. If seniors like Joshua Adams, Leroy Poen, Joel Frost, Mitch McCarthy, Tyrel Copeland, Tim Holladay, Len Stock and Brandt Clark hit the weights, Show Low will have a solid front wall. "We had outstanding senior leadership, and a tremendous work ethic" says Bill Morgan. "We hope it carries over. In the 3A East you either get better or you get out of Dodge.'

The numbers are down at St. Johns, but the wins keep piling up. Last year only six players with varsity experience helped the Redskins go 8-2, falling to Snowflake in an early playoff game. "It was a successful year, but a very disappointing post season," says Mike Morgan, 80-12-1 (.869) in eight years at SJ. "This year we could start as many as five sophomores." Still, senior quarterback Lincoln Proctor (6-0, 160) has some weapons to work with. Halfback Kent Heap (5-10, 168) rushed for 908 yards. He's probably the Redskins' best bet for all-state honors. He also plays safety. Running back Dave Jarvis (5-10, 180) was an all-region linebacker. Two-way backs Helaman Lambson (5-11, 170) and Dallas Davis (6-0, 185) started. Tackles Brock Heap (6-0, 280) and Ryan Flygar (6-7, 230) are all-region material. Jordan Davis (6-1, 180) is another returning starter. Afton Lambson, Aaron Heap, B.J. Garcia, Jason Bingham and Jared Jarvis are the five sophomores who might start.

Second year coach Russ Seymore hopes his Bulldogs are faster this year and throw the ball better. If so, Winslow could be back in the playoff picture after a one year absence. Still, only eight players return. But two are top-notch: linebacker John Manthei (5-11, 215), who doubles at running back, and receiver Lavel Mayberry (6-1, 205), who plays next to Manthei on defense. Manthei is just a junior. Both run 40 yards in 4.7 seconds. Two-way linemen Preston DeSpain (5-11, 205) and Bo Barton (6-4, 215) give the 'Dogs a firm grip in the trenches. Both quarterbacks, senior Mike Elson (5-10, 175) and junior Bryan Hays (6-3, 165) should return. The loss of Isaac

flagstaff football '97

Larsen and Jason Kislingbury through graduation will hurt.

In Springerville, Round Valley has won over 400 football games since 1921. Only two came last year. Too many young players, plus an offense which couldn't score, resulted in a 2-7 finish. With 16 returning lettermen, second year coach Tim Slade looks to improve, especially on offense. Little Lee Hamblin (5-9, 165) returns at quarterback, and that's a start. Both running backs, Ryan Adams (5-8, 170) and Matt Allen (5-9, 175) return, along with tight end Jeff Fox (6-1, 200). Allen is just a junior. Two-way tackle Jeff Massey (6-3, 205) was an honorable mention all-region pick. The best player in camp has to be junior linebacker Jacob Belshe (6-3, 230), a first team allregion pick who led the team in tackles. He also starts on the offensive line. Jeri Logan, Whitney Wiltbank, Aaron Finch, Marc Taylor and Hank Rogers are other Elks to watch.

Of the four teams in the 3A East who played just nine games, **Holbrook** had it the toughest. The Roadrunners finished 1-8 and failed to win a conference game for the third year in a row. A season of frustration ended with a 48-0 loss to rival Winslow. The 'Runners, who managed to beat Tuba City Greyhills, gave up 427 points. Too many underclassmen played, but those who did, like fullback Nick Cooley, and linemen Travis Brooks and Troy McClaws, gave a good effort. Brooks started as a sophomore. Cooley and McClaws have been on the varsity for three years.

The new kid on the block is Alchesay, located in Whiteriver. The Falcons move up from the 2A North, where they finished 7-3 and played everybody tough. Coach Brian Miller's crew lost to Pima 14-8, Williams 32-24 and Seton Catholic 26-14, all playoff teams. Twoway tackle Joe Kessay (5-10, 230) and quarterback/safety Kyle Goklish (5-11, 165) are the key players. Goklish is only a junior. He threw for 643 yards. Earnest Walker (5-10, 175) is a two-way end. Ermon Cosay (5-8, 170) was an all-league cornerback. Junior "Boss" Goseyun (5-10, 225) starts at linebacker and guard. Ermon Stover (5-10, 260) is a two-way tackle. Robert Hinton (5-9, 175) is the Falcons' fullback. Joe Walker, Steve Moody and Nunzic Perez tip the scales at 220-plus pounds. "We have some good players, but a lack of overall speed could hurt us," warns Miller. "We'll be stronger, but now we play in the toughest league in the state."

Streak Busters

Class 3A state champion Blue Ridge of Lakeside enters the 1997 football campaign with a 39-game winning streak, second longest in state history. The state's all-time leaders, and the schools which beat them:

| Students | School | Year | Lost To/Score |
|--------------|----------------------|----------|---------------------------|
| 43 | .*St. Johns | .1992-95 | Monument Valley, 24-16 |
| 39 | .Lakeside Blue Ridge | .1994-96 | Active! |
| 34 | .Round Valley | .1977-81 | Payson, 21-20 |
| 32 | .Tucson High | .1943-45 | El Paso Austin, Tx., 7-0 |
| 29 | .Patagonia | .1986-87 | Valley Union, 26-8 |
| 27 | .Pima | .1969-71 | Fredonia, 57-28 |
| 27 | .Phoenix St. Mary's | .1984-86 | Phoenix Moon Valley, 14-7 |
| 26 | .Coolidge | .1942-45 | Mesa, 27-12 |
| 25 | .Phoenix Carver | .1951-53 | Blythe, Ca., 20-14 |
| 25 | .*Bisbee | .1953-56 | Tucson High, 12-6 |
| 25 | .Safford | .1968-70 | Agua Fria, 48-26 |
| *Includes ti | es. | | |

3A West

The league race looks wide open, so schools like Wickenburg have a shot. Coach Jon Hill's Wranglers return 14 letter winners from a 3-6 squad which should have played better. "With a roster full of seniors we expected more," says Hill. "I believe our lack of success came from one particular loss." In senior Nate Brink, WHS has the league speedster. The 5-11, 150-pound back runs 40 yards in 4.6 seconds and plays everywhere. Last year he rushed for 510 yards (5.3) vpc.) and scored six TDs. He completed 30 of 59 passes (51%), and recorded 28 solo tackles. Classmates George Wilkins and Don Durham join him in the secondary. The rest of the lineup is junior dominated. Quarterback Dennis Neely, center Colin McArthur, fullback Eddie Dickinson, linebacker Sal Formica, guard Dustin Wright and tackle Jason Hancock, to list a few, could start.

Parker advanced two games into the 3A playoffs before Snowflake knocked them out. Like Wickenburg, the Broncos were senior dominated, but do return several key players, including guard Robin Lewis (5-11, 188), a two-way starter who also plays defensive end. Quarterback Robbie Melton (5-10, 150) doubles at safety. Halfback Geoff Settle (5-9, 150) plays in the secondary. Cornerback Adam Chavira (5-5, 140) is one of the smallest players in the league, but he's guick. Tackle John Stansbury (6-3, 310) is the biggest.

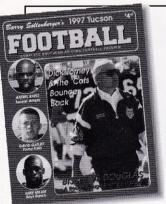
River Valley continues to struggle, but the Dust Devils only lost three players to graduation. Improvement might be on the horizon. Coach Ray Fenton felt his 2-7 club was better than its record. If junior Josh Mayes (5-10, 175) stays healthy good things might happen. He rushed for 1,079 yards on 247 carries. Defensively he led the team in solo tackles with 59. Nose guard Joe Heath (5-10, 180) was third on the team in tackles. Receiver Tom Schoonover (6-0, 180) and running back Jason Hogencamp (5-10, 180) could help break big plays. Both are strong (300 pound bench) and quick (4.7 forty). Linebacker Jesus Perez (5-9, 175) was an honorable mention all-region pick. Matt Brodbeck (6-3, 240), Wes Brodbeck (6-1, 200) and Jason Williams (6-3, 225) add size to the line. They give the senior class leadership needed to improve. Linebacker Dustin Lash (6-2, 190), a transfer from Illinois, could start.

At least seven three-year letter winners hope this is their year at Camp Verde. The Cowboys return 14 players - exactly 50% of the roster. Center Phil Kee (6-1, 210), linebacker Dan Durnez (5-10, 166), receiver Josh McReynolds (5-10, 166), wingback Clay Meyers (5-9, 150), tailback Rouce Pieratt (6-0, 177), wideout Scott Roberts (5-9, 150) and guard Dan Visser (5-11, 180) have been in the program for three years. Junior quarterback Matt Palmer (6-1, 175) and tackle Dan McDonald (6-1, 188) logged playing time. Since they jumped to the 3A ranks, CV has struggled. This year should be better.

3A North

Since St. Johns switched to the 3A East, it looks like a battle between Monument Valley and Ganado for the championship. For the second year in a row. MVHS had their season end in a playoff match with Boys Ranch. Again it was close. The Ranch prevailed 19-12 in overtime. It was a senior-dominated club. and only 11 players return. Leader of the defense is William Benally (6-0, 195), an all-region lineman. Running back Josh Biard (6-0, 185) is another key holdover. Kurt Claw (5-10, 200) and Jon Baldwin (6-0, 195) are the only holdovers with any size at all. Graduation cleaned out the cupboard. Benally and Baldwin are three vear letter winners.

Ganado had a good run, considering a whole new coaching staff and one returning letterman. But that letterman was a dandy, all-state guarterback Micheal Bitsuie. He threw for 2,906 yards and 28 touchdowns, then picked up his diploma. The Hornets were eliminated by



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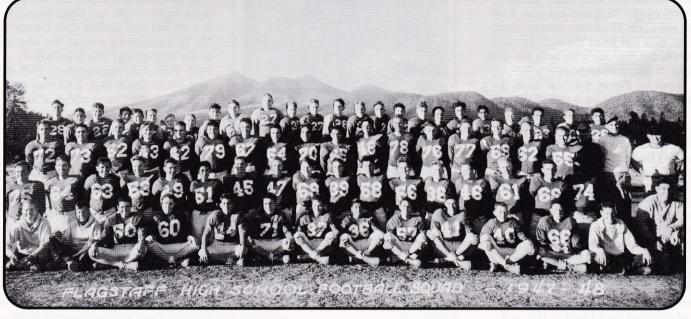
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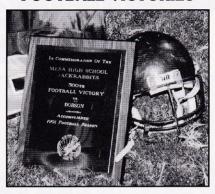
Snowflake in the first round of the playoffs. "Nobody expected us to be in the playoffs," claims Gary Hubbell. With tackle Marco Jones (6-2, 185) and tight end Bristol Olomua (6-3, 195) in the lineup, Hubbel has two of the better players in the league. Jones had eight quarterback sacks. Olomua, just a junior, joins his brother Brad and senior Shawn Cook to give the Hornets three classy receivers. Bristol caught 75 passes last year, Brad 30 and Cook 17. Junior Tommy Yazzie (6-1, 205) and Brian Yazzie (5-10, 180) start in the line. Jason Jesus (5-10, 165) looks to take over at quarterback.

Look for Pinon, the new kid on the block, to compete for a playoff spot. "For a first year program we did extremely well," said Scott Strange after a 4-4 finish. "We lacked for numbers but we weren't far behind in the ability department." Junior guarterback Pete Nez (6-0, 185) runs the Eagles' Pro-I. Senior tackle Albert Hydeman (6-1, 230) is another allregion candidate. Nez runs a 4.7 forty and plays defensive end. Junior Josh Jones is another two-way lineman. Little Johnny Segay (5-9, 165) is the Eagles best runner. Junior wideout Jess Redhorse (5-8, 160, 4.6) is the fastest. At least two sophomores, halfback Rayburn Tsosie and defensive back Dominic Nez, will start

Graduation took a big chunk out of **Tuba City's** armor, but the Warriors return a decent collection of holdovers to regroup with, Quarterback Darrell Yazzie (5-11, 175) was just a junior. Halfback Markus Allen (5-8, 155) has two years of varsity play left. The secondary looks solid with Shaun Hurley (5-10, 180), Clarence Goldtooth (5-10, 161) and Erneson Yazzie (5-9, 185) in the lineup. Yazzie also plays linebacker. Little Kino Reed (5-8, 150) could start at wideout. Up front, junior Jonathan Aloi tips the scales at 263-pounds. Guard Eric Bilagody (5-10, 230) should start. But like most of his teammates he'll have to go both ways for the Warriors to be competitive.

Too many underclassmen made for a long season at **Window Rock**, but it should be a little better this year. If experience helps, the Fighting Scouts have a year-full. Eleven sophomores played. So did 6-2, 235-pound freshman Melvin Foster. Quarterback is a key position and Ivan Williams (6-1, 180) returns. So does junior Danny Corbin (5-11, 155). The receiving corps is deep. Pick from Jarred Logg, Reggie James, Jerrod Bekis or Lyle Jackson. Still, you win or lose in the trenches. For the Scouts to improve,

ALL-TIME ARIZONA HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL VICTORIES



| Wins | School | Years |
|------|---------------------|---------|
| 557 | .Mesa | 1920-96 |
| 493 | .Tucson | 1912-96 |
| 461 | .Safford | 1925-96 |
| 423 | .Winslow | 1915-96 |
| 422 | .Phoenix St. Mary's | 1938-96 |
| 403 | .Round Valley | 1921-96 |
| 398 | .Gilbert | 1923-96 |
| 394 | .Douglas | 1906-96 |
| 383 | .Flagstaff | 1923-96 |
| 381 | .Snowflake | 1929-96 |
| 364 | .Tempe | 1924-96 |
| 363 | .Miami | 1923-96 |
| | .Tucson Amphi | |
| | .Phoenix Union | |
| 349 | .Peoria | 1933-96 |
| | | |

Foster, Larry Anderson (5-11, 295) and Bryce Sutton (6-1, 201) need help. They can't do it alone.

Shoring up the defense is the game plan at **Tuba City Greyhills**. The Knights (2-7) gave up a ton of points, but with 17 holdovers head coach Kevin O. Tomah sees improvement. If junior quarterback Kyle Hemstreet (5-11, 175) plays well, things will get better. He also plays in the secondary. Senior Pete George (5-8, 150) is a capable receiver. Junior Julius Lee is the Knights' best runner. In fact, Lee, George and Hemstreet all start in the secondary. Senior Derrick Hathleta (6-0, 200) is the team's best lineman.

2A North

As expected, **Williams** had little trouble moving back to 2A competition, where the Vikings posted an 8-2 record and played in one playoff game. Kearny Ray sent them home early, 42-30. The other loss was to 3A Monument Valley.

But coach Rick Williams started 13 juniors, so it's easy to see why the coaches pick WHS to win the league. Over 30 players return and team speed is up. Halfback James Faultner (5-11, 170) was the 2A North Player of the Year. He rushed for 1,700 yards and scored 27 touchdowns. Defensive back Alfonso Solano (6-1, 180) is in Faultner's class. They give Shipley the best one-two punch in the region. Tight end David Frazier (6-3, 190) and split receiver Cole Orozco (5-10, 160) add to the arsenal. But who will be the guarterback? Joe Schulte (6-4, 240), junior Fide Martinez (6-0, 190) and soph Daniel Green (6-4, 230) man the trenches. In eight years with the Vikings, Shipley is 58-17-1, winning 77% of his games.

Sedona Red Rock has played only one varsity season and already made a coaching change. Sammy Davis takes over a 4-5 club which gained experience and returns most of its skill players. But the line needs work. Tailback Anthony Hadorn (5-11, 165), tight end Aaron Linaman (6-4, 230) and fullback Hobie Dufort (5-10, 210) are the team's tri-captains. Hadorn, a good defensive back, led the team in kickoff returns. Dufort gained 792 yards in nine games. Chad McMahan (6-2, 220) was an all-conference tackle. Junior linebacker Justin Jackson (5-7, 155) averaged 11 tackles a game. Junior Ricky Schabatka (6-2, 165) gets the call at guarterback. Center Rene Felix (5-11, 190), just a sophomore, is an excellent blocker.

Hopi had a successful season, but it ended too soon. Superior knocked them out in the playoff's first round. "We had a very young line, but they played with a lot of heart," claims head coach David Herbert. "Our line will be ready." Still, the skill players reside in the junior class. starting with Marlon Swimmer, a 6-0, 185-pound fullback, and tailback Eric James (6-2, 190). Senior JoShua Haven (6-3, 240) is the leader in the trenches. Shane Honanie (5-8, 200), Waylon Pahona (5-9, 209) and Llewellyn Dashee (5-10, 220) give the Bruins a boost in the line. Big shoes must be filled at quarterback, where Isaac Panana, who was killed in an auto crash in April, left quite a legacy at the Keams Canyon school (see record section).

Only five seniors saw action at **Valley High** in Sanders, so second-year coach Ron Fuson returns most of his lineup. The Pirates went 2-7 with underclassmen at almost every position. Still, the key position is quarterback. That falls on the

shoulders of "Butch" Keyannie, a 5-9, 160-pound senior. He also plays in the secondary. He passed for 450 yards and ran for 350. The big gun in the lineup looks like halfback Morgan Wilson (5-10, 165), a senior who gained 810 yards on the ground, 125 receiving and scored seven times. Tight end Thomas Jennings (6-5, 190) caught 18 passes for 220 yards and four TDs. Senior Mario Zazuela (5-10, 230), junior Julius Parker (6-2, 260) and soph Wilbur Begay (6-3, 230) start on the line. Young Anthony Lasiloo, the teams' kicker, averaged 39.9 yards per boot. He plays guard and linebacker.

1A North

At Mogollon, the Mustangs season ended in spectacular fashion, 48-46 to Scottsdale Christian in the 1A semifinals. Coach Rocky Nelson's club finished 7-3. It looks like a rebuilding year, but that won't change much. Still, all-staters Nic Porter and Wendall Crandell will be missed. Tackle Kalan Allen (6-3, 230) looks like the best bet for all-state honors. Defensive end Dennis Mollet (5-9, 170) and linebacker Eric Gaylord (5-10, 170) started. Young Ben Tenney (5-10, 170) takes over at quarterback. Andy Crandell (5-6, 150), Garth Hyland (5-8, 140) and Dallin Baum (5-8, 150) help form an allunderclassmen backfield.

Fourteen holdovers from a Joseph City club which just missed the playoffs makes for a promising fall. Coach Jeff Crothers likes the looks of linebacker Jimmy Snyder (5-10, 180), and young halfback Brandon Larson (5-10, 190), who's just a sophomore. Larson gained 1,008 yards on 82 carries and scored 13 touchdowns. Snyder, the Wildcats fastest and strongest player, averaged 24 yards per kickoff return and scored three times. Soph quarterback Joey Richards (5-9, 150) passed for 706 yards and six TDs. He scored five rushing touchdowns. End Vaughn Fish (6-1, 160) caught four TD passes. Defensive lineman Cory Jansen (6-3, 170) made 12 tackles for losses, including seven QB sacks. Skill players Matt Westover (5-10, 155) and Shawn Van Hemert (5-9, 160) never leave the field.

Too many injuries led to a 5-6 finish, but **Fredonia** still made the playoffs. St. David knocked them out in the first round, 50-34. "We will be good," warns veteran coach Mont Griffiths. "How good depends upon our quarterback situation." Only 10 players return, but several started, including end/linebacker Jared Black

Race to 100

In the annals of Arizona schoolboy football, no high school has ever won 100 games in a decade. **Phoenix St. Mary's**, with 99 triumphs in the 1980's, holds the state record. Below are the leaders in the Decade of the '90's:

| Wins | School | Years | Overall | Winning % |
|------|---------------------|---------|---------|-----------|
| 77 | Lakeside Blue Ridge | 1990-96 | 77-8-0 | (.906) |
| 75 | Mesa Mountain View | 1990-96 | 75-15-1 | (.833) |
| 74 | Mesa | 1990-96 | 74-14-1 | (.841) |
| 74 | Tucson Sabino | 1990-96 | 74-15-0 | (.831) |
| 72 | St. Johns | 1990-96 | 72-9-1 | (.889) |
| 72 | Phoenix St. Mary's | 1990-96 | 72-18-0 | (.800) |
| 69 | Peoria | 1990-96 | 69-16-1 | (.812) |
| 67 | Tucson Sahuaro | 1990-96 | 67-17-3 | (.797) |
| 64 | Scottsdale Horizon | 1990-96 | 64-20-1 | (.762) |
| 64 | Snowflake | 1990-96 | 64-20-1 | (.762) |
| 64 | Tucson Amphi | 1990-96 | 64-23-0 | (.736) |
| 60 | Thatcher | 1990-96 | 60-18-0 | (.769) |

(6-2, 175), guard Brandon Tait (6-3, 275) and center Mike Waters (5-8, 200). Guard Tim Corley (6-0, 240) joins Tait and Waters to give the Lynx the biggest front in the 1A North. Justin Mackelprang (6-0, 185), Evan Sadlier (5-8, 160) and John Nash (5-8, 150) are two-way backs who seldom leave the field. Nash might be the quarterback. This year's starting lineup is senior dominated.

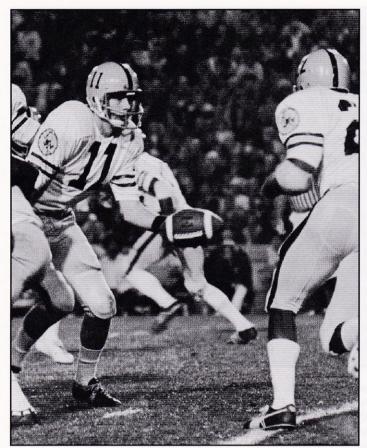
Only four seniors played at **St. Michael**, so a losing record wasn't surprising. The Cardinals played 10 underclassmen, including freshmen Winston Benally (6-0, 200) and Garrett Yazzie (5-10, 200) on the line, and sophomore Chad Yazzie (5-10, 150) at quarterback. Big Dave Tsosie (6-2, 240) and Jerome Thomas (6-0, 240) help mold a solid front wall. Still, St. Michael seems to fall short at the skill positions.

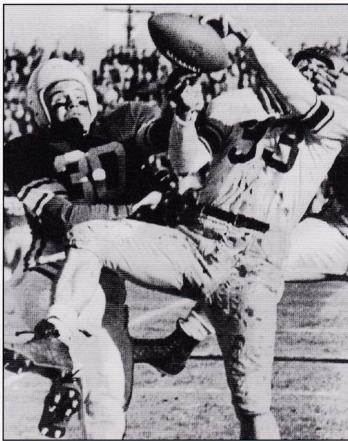
1A West

Near Mayer, the **Orme School** keeps knocking on the door, but the Warriors keep falling short of the championship throne. Coach Bob Miller's club went unbeaten in the 1A West, outscoring eight opponents 388 pts. to 180. But Scottsdale Christian dumped them from the playoff hunt, 28-8 in the first round. Still, it was the Warriors (8-1) best record since 1983 (9-0). With one dozen holdovers Orme could be stronger. "If everybody returns, we should be better than last year," warns Miller, 148-101-8

in the profession. Fullback Steve Boka is the big gun. The 6-2, 210-pounder, with 4.7 speed, gained 835 yards rushing, 297 receiving and scored 19 touchdowns. Tight end Travis Carter (6-2, 197), just a junior, averaged 22.6 yards per catch and scored nine times. Quarterback Courtney Conway (6-0, 170) passed for 720 yards and rushed for 348. The Warriors line might be the biggest in 8-man ball, with guards Yannick Boka (6-2, 307), Eli McIntosh (5-11, 212), Jay Perkerson (5-9, 208) and center Andrew Singleton (6-1, 196) in the lineup. Boka is just a junior. Backup quarterback Peter Iverson (6-2, 175) is an excellent kicker, one of the state's best. Elester Hubbard (5-6, 140) is a tough little linebacker.

For the first time in years, Mayer started several freshmen. The results were predictable: 3 wins, 5 losses. The defense gave up 324 points in eight games. "We started four freshmen and they did a good job," claims Vince Cahill, 78-27-1 at the school. "But rarely could they matchup with opponents' upperclassmen." Cahill hopes halfback/linebacker Jereme Bais (5-10, 185) and guard Dewayne Brown (6-0, 195) provide senior leadership. Quarterback Barrett Walters (6-1, 175), end Cody Kuehl (5-11, 180) and guard Tim Meyers (5-10, 175) represent the junior class. Defensive back Steve Vega, halfback Chayne Probst, safety Cesar Leyva and guard Chris Schuhmacher were the four freshmen who started.





Quarterback Danny White (11) hands the ball to Woody Green during Arizona State's win over Pitt in the 1973 Fiesta Bowl. At right, father Wilford "Whizzer" White (33) is mugged by Miami of Ohio players in the 1950 Salad Bowl.

White's Family Legacy Grows

By Bob Snider

Danny White, perhaps the most decorated of the 129 players who played for Frank Kush at Arizona State and played professionally, is enjoying his own success as a coach.

Today, White is the head coach and general manager of the Arizona Rattlers of the Arena Football League. In 1994, White led the Rattlers to the Arena championship, the first world title for an Arizona professional team.

The former Mesa Westwood, ASU and Dallas Cowboy quarterback will soon join his former college coach, Frank Kush, in the National Football Foundation's College Hall of Fame, making him the first former Sun Devil player to be honored.

White credits his former mentors -Kush and Tom Landry of the Dallas Cowboys - for helping him develop leadership and savvy. "More than anything else, Frank Kush taught me the value of the coaching position and what you're capable of doing as a coach," White says. "He taught me about pushing players to their potential and beyond.

"We saw that with the Rattlers, winning a championship with guys who weren't the most talented in the league. Frank did that with us at ASU. He took guys who were too small or too slow to play major college football and we went 32-4 and won three Fiesta Bowls."

White was especially pleased with

"Right now I enjoy coaching Arena football. It's a great product, and I'm the head coach and general manager. I call the shots."

Kush's recent selection into the College Hall of Fame. "Just knowing what he did for the ASU program, the Western Athletic Conference, the number of players he put into the pros and the lives he changed truly took care of some unfinished business."

White said Landry's winning Dallas teams of the late '70s were also made up of overachievers. "I played with some Cowboy teams that had players who, on strength and speed, had no right to play in the NFL. Guys like Leroy Jordan, Drew Pearson, Cliff Harris and Charlie Waters. The whole team was made up of guys like that.

"Landry taught me there's a right way and a wrong way to do everything. The right way will always pay dividends, although it may take awhile. But the right mindset will eventually make a difference in winning and losing. The way you treat players is more important that the results themselves."

At Dallas, White enjoyed the highest

"Danny was a creative and highly productive player. He made things happen. He had great rapport with his teammates and had their unqualified respect."

and lowest moments as an NFL quarterback. As the player who followed Roger Staubach, he often faced criticism from Cowboys fans. But he also erased many of Staubach's records. White still holds Cowboy career marks for completions and touchdown passes. When Dallas selected its 25th Anniversary Team, White was the punter.

At Arizona State, White-led Sun Devil teams dominated the up-and-coming Western Athletic Conference and set the stage for the school's move into the Pac-10. Recruited originally as a baseball player, hereditary may partly account for his athletic success.

Danny's father Wilford was an All-America high school back at Mesa High, an outstanding basketball player, and a state champion sprinter and long jumper. At Arizona State "Whizzer" earned All-America honors again, notched 16 different 100-yard rushing games, and is still listed 40 times in the ASU record book 45 years later. He also played professionally, with the Chicago Bears.

Danny may have been the best quarterback ever to play in talent-rich Mesa. In 1969, the slick Westwood signal caller passed for 1,365 yards for the near-perfect Warriors (9-1), considered by many the best team in Arizona. The Dave Gates-coached club averaged 37.6 points, most ever by a Mesa school. They beat one team, Yuma Kofa, 100-6. White also played safety, and was selected MVP of the 1970 North-South all-star game in Flagstaff. A basketball-baseball-track star, he also broke the Westwood school record in the long jump, and earned 11 varsity letters before graduating.

"Danny was a creative and highly productive player," said Kush recently. "He made things happen. He had great rapport with his teammates and had their unqualified respect. I have had the privilege of coaching some great athletes, in college and the pros. Danny has always been extra special in my mind, as an exceptional athlete and a super person."

Danny set more than 30 offensive

flagstaff football '97

records at ASU, including most career TD passes (64) and yards passing (6,717). He was named first team All-America by the Football Writers and two other associations after the 1973 season, and finished ninth in the Heisman Trophy voting. He might have finished higher had he not shared the spotlight with teammate Woody Green, a running back who finished eighth. Upon graduation, White held seven NCAA passing and total offense records.

In 1971, Sports Illustrated rated White the second most productive college quarterback of all-time, behind former Brigham Young star Steve Young.

White's college career never produced the national championships he enjoyed with the Cowboys or the Rattlers. That's partly because ASU, even with four consecutive WAC titles, could never impress national pollsters enough. The Sun Devils highest ranking during Whites' three-year run (1971-73) was No. 6.

"We won everything we could win. We had great players, but I don't think anyone wanted to play us in a major bowl," he noted.

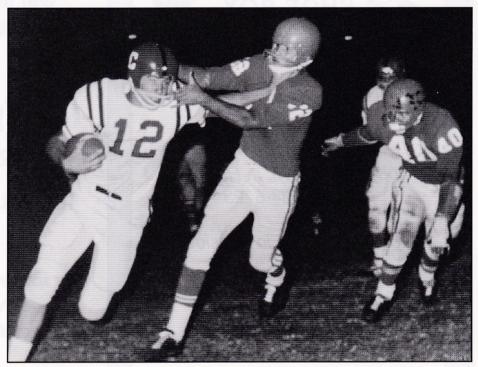
But as a three-year starter, White's ASU teams played in three Fiesta Bowls, beating Florida State 45-38, Missouri 49-35, and Pittsburgh 28-7, in that order. Freshman didn't play varsity football at the time. In 1970, his first year on the college campus, the Sun Devils beat North Carolina 48-26 in the Peach Bowl.

But college football, White says, will always secure a special place in his heart. "The whole mentality was different from the pro game. As an amateur player, the fans and everyone involved had more respect for you. You were perceived as a hero, whereas in the pro ranks you were paid a lot of money to do it.

"I really enjoyed the atmosphere. We weren't being paid anything to do what we were doing, and guys played more for the love of the game than anything else. To see guys come together and pull together and win championships for just the love of playing was a great experience."

White's attitude about football and his success today is no surprise to his old college coach. "Danny was a team player in every sense of the term," adds Kush. "He developed great interpersonal relationships and always had a positive outlook. He was a true leader and the epitome of what people expect of an outstanding athlete."

"I love living in the Phoenix area," says White, married 25 years and the father of four. "I don't want to get stuck in a profession where nine out of 10 people are unemployed, and you have to hunt jobs all over the country. Right now I enjoy coaching Arena football. It's a great product, and I'm the head coach and general manager. I call the shots. And it's only a full-time job about five months of the year."



In a 1968 game at Westwood, White (12 at right), as a defensive back, chases down Scottsdale Coronado quarterback Jim Brady.

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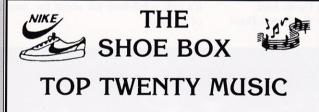
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Ryan Kealy St. Mary's



Fred Enke, Jr.
Tucson



Grady Benton Mesa



Todd Mortensen Tempe

HONORING ARIZONA'S BEST HIGH SCHOOL QUARTERBACK

1996 Todd Mortensen, Tempe

1995 Ryan Kealy, Phoenix St. Mary's

1994 Chris Snyder, Sunnyslope

1993 Jason Maas, Yuma

1992 Jason Verdugo, Tucson Canyon del Oro

1991 Anthony Sanders, Tucson Santa Rita

1990 Grady Benton, Mesa

1989 Aaron Santini, Tucson Santa Rita

1988 Bret Powers, Glendale Cactus

1987 John Bonds, Phoenix St. Mary's

1986 Bobby Valdez, Tucson Sunnyside

1985 Kent Kiefer, Tempe McClintock

1984 Steve Belles, Phoenix St. Mary's

1983 John Walker, Tempe Marcos de Niza

1982 Rodney Peete, Tucson Sahuaro (jr)

1981 Steve Stallworth, Yuma

1980 Trent Hutchinson, South Mountain

1979 Lloyd Coker, Phoenix Central

1978 Kevin Smith, Scottsdale Saguaro (jr)

1977 Mike Pagel, Phoenix Washington

1976 Greg Brady, Scottsdale Coronado

1975 Jim Krohn, Tucson Amphi

1974 Mark Whipple, Phoenix Camelback

1973 Rob Wilson, Scottsdale Coronado

1972 Greg Hubbell, Phoenix Central

1971 Fred Mortensen, Tempe

1970 Fred Mortensen, Tempe (jr)

1969 Danny White, Mesa Westwood

1968 Bill Mannion, Phoenix St. Mary's

1967 Ken Johnson, Scottsdale Arcadia (jr)

1966 John Svob, Tucson Catalina

1965 George Mattingly, Scottsdale Arcadia

1964 Dave Grangaard, Phoenix Camelback

1963 Rusty Tillman, Agua Fria

1962 Timmy Flood, Phoenix Brophy Prep

1961 Elby Bushong, Phoenix Washington

1960 Gary Deak, Scottsdale Arcadia

1959 Eddie Bricker, Miami

1958 John Power, Phoenix Camelback

1957 Eddie Wilson, Chandler

1956 Carlos Rodriguez, Morenci

1955 Jim Wolf, Yuma

1954 Ralph Hunsaker, Mesa

1953 Clyde Nielson, North Phoenix (jr)

1952 Pat Flood, Tucson

1951 Vaughn Patterson, North Phoenix (jr)

1950 James Black, Phoenix Union

1949 Buster Madariaga, Round Valley

1948 Don Ahee, Tucson

1947 Dan Russell, Mesa

1946 Gus Headington, Yuma

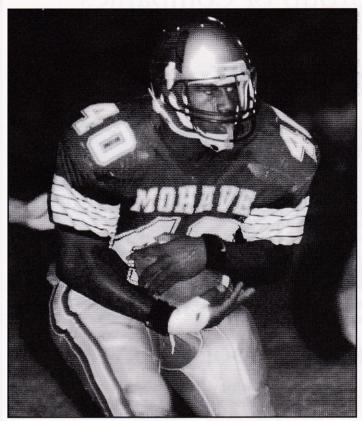
1945 Manuel Aja, Glendale

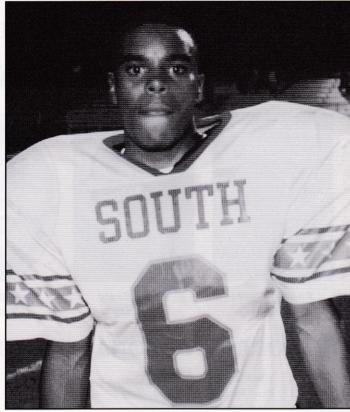
1944 Charles Beall, Mesa

FRED ENKE, JR., a three-sport star at Tucson High and the University of Arizona, was the first Arizona schoolboy to start at quarterback in the NFL. He played with Detroit (1948-51), Philadelphia (1952) and Baltimore (1953-54).

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Bullhead City's Moses Love (40) rushed for 2,089 yards and scored scored 27 touchdowns. South Mountain's Rashad Bauman (6), the 5A player of the year, scored 28 tochdowns (Arizona Informant).

'96 Super All-State Team Big, Fast

By JEFF KRIDER

The beat goes on. It was another banner year for schoolboy football in the Grand Canyon State.

Talent-wise, it just gets better.

An All-American receiver from Tempe, a record-breaking running back from Peoria, and the best all-around player in 5A football highlighted another outstanding year.

Justin Taplin, the player of the year, caught 75 passes for 1,295 yards and 16 touchdowns for 4A state champ Tempe. Coached by Tim McBurney, the Buffaloes nipped Glendale Ironwood 20-17 in overtime at the state finals at Sun Devil Stadium. Taplin's teammate, quarterback Todd Mortensen, a late BYU signee, passed for a school record 2,442 yards and 32 touchdowns. He connected with Taplin for the winning score in the overtime clash with Ironwood.

Phoenix Carl Hayden's **Ty-Juan Swasey**, a member of the Falcon's state championship basketball squad, averaged

28.8 yards per catch, best in the school's 38-year-history. Swasey plans to attend Scottsdale Community College.

At Peoria, tailback **Kyran Jones** rushed for 2,094 yards and scored 32 touchdowns - a 4A state record for a junior. Jones (see cover) bacame the first underclassman since Tucson Sunnyside's Fred Sims (Oklahoma) to win the "Whizzer White Award," given annually to the state's best running back. In Bullhead City, big **Moses Love** (6-3, 255) rushed for 2,089 yards and scored 27 touchdowns for the 5-5 Thunderbirds. Word

At South Mountain, Rashad Bauman, the state's 5A scoring champion, was an easy pick as the 5A Player of the Year. has it that Arizona Western plans to play him at defensive end.

At South Mountain, two-way back **Rashad Bauman**, the state's 5A scoring champion, was an easy pick as the 5A Player of the Year. The University of Oregon signee scored touchdowns from everywhere on the field: 18 by rushing, five receiving, two on punt returns, two pass interceptions and one fumble return. He won the "Tyrone Byrd Award," given annually to the state's best defensive back, by a landslide.

Byrd was a three-sport star at Chandler High between 1985-87, and a star defensive back at the University of Nebraska. He was projected as a high NFL draft pick, but his career was halted by an automobile accident in 1993.

Tucson Amphi halfback **Antrel Bates** (no relation to Marion, Michael or Mario) rushed for 1,812 yards, most ever by a Tucson junior, while Sabino safety **Aaron Smith** led his city with 14 interceptions, returning six for touchdowns. He picked off five, returning three for scores, in a

playoff win over Tucson Desert View.

For the first time in 34 years, two linemen shared honors in the trenches.

Tucson's **Ralph Zarate** and Brophy
Prep's **Bryan Kula**, both preseasonprep All-Americans, tied for the "Brian
Murray Award," given to the state's premier interior lineman.

The award is named after the late Salpointe High grad, a three-year starter at the University of Arizona - also projected as a high NFL pick - who was killed in a fall at Redington Pass. In 1962, tackles **Gary Swift** (Oregon State) and **Bob Bertelsen** (Kansas) of nationally ranked Scottsdale Arcadia won the award, the last such time it was shared.

Kingman's **Trevor Mote**, the Northern Arizona Player of the Year, passed for 984 yards, rushed for 1,032, scored 24 touchdowns, kicked eight field goals and 29 extra points, returned five kickoffs for touchdowns and intercepted six passes. Possibly the state's best allaround athlete, Mote also stared on the Bulldogs' basketball team, and won all-state honors in baseball at shortstop.

Lakeside Blue Ridge, coached by **Paul Moro**, has won three consecutive 3A championships and 39 games in a row, moving close to the state's unbeaten slate of 43. In 11 years with the Yellowjackets, Moro has won six state championships and 80% of his games. In the 3A finals, Blue Ridge overcame Tylon Law's fourth quarter heroics to nip the Boys Ranch 22-20 on a last second field goal.

In the Class 5A finals, Mesa Mountain View, led by second-year coach **Bernie Buskin**, stuffed Brophy Prep 17-3, also at Sun Devil Stadium. Brophy had scored a school record 504 points before the meeting. But the Broncos, who dropped an earlier game to Mountain View in September, met the same fate in the finals. For the winning Toros, kicker **Jeremy Kelley** was terrific, pinning

'96 Awards:

5A Player of the Year Rashad Bauman, South Mountain

4A Player of the Year *Justin Taplin, Tempe Union*

3A Player of the Year Tylon Law, Arizona Boys Ranch

2A Player of the Year *Micah Barton, Phoenix Christian*

'96 Super All-State

OFFENSE

| OTTENSE | |
|--|------------------|
| Pos. Player/High School/Size | College Choice |
| QBTodd Mortensen, Tempe Union, 6-4, 204 | BYU |
| RBKyran Jones, Peoria, 6-1, 172 (jr) | Peoria H.S. |
| RBAntrel Bates, Tucson Amphi, 6-0, 170 (jr) | |
| RBMoses Love, Bullhead City Mohave, 6-3, 255 | |
| OLRalph Zarate, Tucson, 6-5, 285 | |
| OLErin Huizingh, Tempe McClintock, 6-7, 247 | |
| OLKenny Hale, Phoenix South Mountain, 6-3, 260 | |
| OLDavid McKane, Mesa, 6-2, 220 | |
| OLChris Hann, Glendale Cactus, 6-4, 251 | |
| TETodd Heap, Mesa Mountain View, 6-4, 210 (jr) | |
| WRJustin Taplin, Tempe Union, 6-0, 175 | |
| WRTy-Juan Swasey, Phoenix Carl Hayden, 6-0, 190 | |
| | |
| WRBrian Poli-Dixon, Tucson Sabino, 6-3, 190 | |
| PKJeremy Kelley, Mesa Mountain View, 6-1, 160 | |
| PQuin Davis, Tucson Rincon, 6-0, 185 | Arizona vvestern |
| DEFENSE | |
| DLBryan Kula, Phoenix Brophy Prep, 6-3, 275 | Arizona |
| DLJohn Westra, Mesa Red Mountain, 6-5, 240 | |
| DLRyan Duncan, Tempe Mountain Pointe, 6-3, 215 | |
| DLEli Wnek, Glendale Ironwood, 6-4, 225 | |
| DLNick Bogle, Mesa Mountain View, 6-3, 245 | Mesa Community |
| LBCody Price, Mesa Westwood, 6-3, 205 | |
| LBKyle Kosier, Glendale Cactus, 6-5, 225 | |
| LBRaymond Perryman, South Mountain, 6-2, 202 | |
| DBRashad Bauman, South Mountain, 5-9, 165 | |
| DBAaron Smith, Tucson Sabino, 6-0, 190 | |
| DBMike Mantle, Scottsdale Coronado, 5-10, 180 | |
| | |
| DB Trevor Mote Kingman 6-0 180 Va | |
| DBTrevor Mote, Kingman, 6-0, 180Ya RSRashad Bauman, South Mountain | |

Brophy's back to the wall all night.

In the field goal department, Kelley booted a state record five against Tempe Marcos de Niza, and finished with 30 in his three-year career, second on the all-time state list.

In Class 2A, **Keith Brown's** high scoring Cougars at Phoenix Christian rolled over 13 opponents. Sort of. They won from Baboquivari by forfeit, when the Warriors dropped the sport. While winning it all, PC played two opponents twice: Superior, which they beat 28-6 and 14-13, and Tempe Valley Christian, 25-0 and 28-6 victories. The later came in the 2A title game.

In Class 1A, **Northwest Community Christian** went out with a bang, routing
Scottsdale Christian 48-6 in the last 8man game played by the two schools.
Next up is 2A competition. Both school's
have witnessed an enrollment jump.
Sophomore quarterback Jake Wright tied

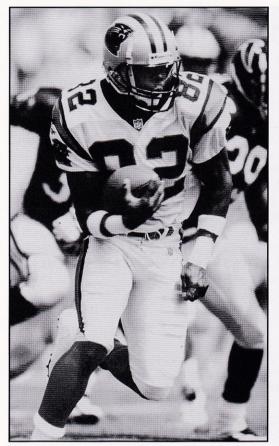
a 1A title game record by scoring five touchdowns.

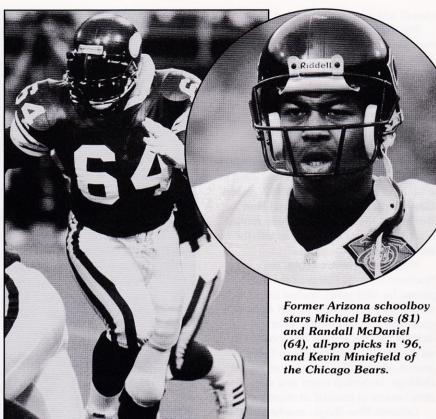
Coaching-wise, Mountain Pointe's **Karl Kiefer** finished the '96 campaign with an 8-5 slate, extending his state leading mark to 256-94-3, one of the best in the country.

At Tucson Amphi, **Vern Friedli's** near-perfect Panthers finished 12-1, extending his career record to 237-90-2. If they stay in the profession, three additional coaches, **Pat Farrell** (St. Mary's), **Bill Mitton** (Trevor Bowne) and **Bernon Benson** (Valley Christian) should reach the magic 200-win plateau soon.

Team-wise, **Mesa** continues its climb to 600 wins. Coached by **Bill McKane**, the Jackrabbits finished 8-4 last year, giving the school 557 wins since 1920. Mesa is one of the few high schools in the western United States with 500-plus wins in football and 1,000-plus in basketball.

metro football special insert





Bates, McDaniel '96 All-Pro Picks

By BARRY SOLLENBERGER

According to Census Bureau estimates, Arizona's population growth dropped off last year. But it still climbed enough to be the second fastest growing state in the country.

Arizona added 123,000 new residents last year, hiking the state's population closer to five-million. The 2.9 percent increase was second only to Nevada's 4.5.

By the turn of the century, for the first time ever, Arizona could have 200 high schools. This growth is reflected in it's sports programs. As more and more athletes compete, more and more reach the pro ranks.

But good high school football is nothing new to the Grand Canyon State. Last year, only two states west of the Mississippi River, Texas and California, had more former schoolboy stars on NFL rosters than Arizona.

Football and track, a happy marriage at most schools, has always been Arizona's premier sports. It was no surprise that one of Arizona's all-time greatest high school stars, Tucson's Michael Bates, landed a spot on the 1996 Associated Press All-Pro team, as the league's premier kick returner. Joining Bates was another former schoolboy star from Arizona, Randall McDaniel, a guard for the Minnesota Vikings. Bates is a receiver for the Carolina Panthers.

There have been many two-sport stars, but none recently with the speed of Michael Bates, whose brother Mario plays for the New Orleans Saints.

"The older Bates (Michael) was without a doubt the best two-sport star from Arizona since Tucson High's legendary Joe Batiste," claims Tempe sports writer Skip Bryant, who has covered the preps for 40 years.

"Bates was without a doubt the best twosport star from Arizona since Tucson High's legendary Joe Batiste." There are similarities. Batiste, a member of the United State's mythical 1940 Olympic team, was an all-state back in football and a world class high hurdler.

At Tucson Amphitheater, between 1985-88, Bates scored 53 touchdowns, 318 points and rushed for 3,803 yards. In track & field, the future Olympian was a schoolboy phenom. In 1987, he set national age group records for sophomores with times of 10.34 for 100 meters, 20.90 at 200 meters and 13.84 for the 110 meter high hurdles.

His 20.68 time at 200 meters in 1988, his junior year, is today the second fastest in state history, behind another Arizona Olympian, South Mountain's Dwayne Evans. Bates ran 100 meters in 10.39 that year, and zipped over the high hurdles in 13.70.

Sadly, because of a coaching conflict, Bates did not compete in high school track his senior year. He attended the University of Arizona, and after an average football career - but a terrific track career - landed in the National Football League with the Seattle Seahawks.

McDaniel, himself a multiple sports star at Agua Fria High in Avondale, has "The best thing that ever happened to him was they switched him to guard. That move made him a millionaire."

been one of the NFL's premier lineman for years. In high school he earned all-state honors as a tight end/defensive end, playing for head coach Pat Lavin.

McDaniel starred in the 1983 Arizona North-South All-Star Game, catching three touchdown passes. In basketball, he once grabbed 31 rebounds in a single game, and threw the shot put and discus in track. Before graduating from college, McDaniel was a member of Arizona State's 1987 Rose Bowl team.

"When he started out at Arizona State, he was a tight end," says Lavin. "The best thing that ever happened to him was they switched him to guard. That move made him a millionaire."

Last year, 29 former Arizona schoolboy products dotted NFL rosters (see chart), down from 32 the previous year. This summer, with the addition of 10 new draft picks and free agents, the state creeps closer to 40, an amazing number for a region with less than five-million population.

Since the New York Giants picked Phoenix Union's Cecil Mulleneaux in 1932, over 200 Arizona high school products have played professional football in the United States (NFL) and Canada (CFL).

When it comes to athletic ability, St. Louis Ram defensive back Anthony Parker takes a back seat to nobody. The former Tempe McClintock football and baseball star, also a member of the Sun Devils' '87 Rose Bowl team, still stars in the secondary.

When scoring defensive touchdowns, the slowest player in the Rams' secondary is Deion Sanders' equal. Last year, Parker's 92-yard interception return during a 17-14 win over the Jacksonville Jaguars was his seventh career defensive score - four on interceptions and three on fumbles. That matches Sanders, the Dallas Cowboys high-profile back, for the lead among active players, and is only three shy of the NFL career mark set by former Houston all-pro Kenny Houston.

"Anthony Parker is the thief," said Todd Lyght, the Rams' other cornerback.

PRO PARADE

The 29 Arizona schoolboy products in the NFL in 1996.

OFFENSE

| Pos | ition/Player/Pro Team/High School College | |
|-----|---|--|
| QB | Rodney Peete, Philadelphia Eagles (Tucson Sahuaro)USC | |
| QB | Jeff Lewis, Denver Broncos (Scottsdale Horizon)Northern Arizona | |
| RB | Mario Bates, New Orleans Saints (Tucson Amphi)ASU | |
| RB | Ryan Christopherson, Arizona Cardinals (Cactus)Wyoming | |
| WR | | |
| | Anthony Edwards, Arizona Cardinals (Casa Grande)N.M. Highlands | |
| WR | | |
| WR | | |
| TE | Derek Price, Detroit Lions (Tempe Marcos de Niza)lowa | |
| TE | Richard Griffith, Jacksonville Jaguars (Tucson Catalina)Arizona | |
| OL | Randall McDaniel, Minnesota Vikings (Agua Fria)ASU | |
| OL | John Fina, Buffalo Bills (Tucson Salpointe)Arizona | |
| OL | Danny Villa, Kansas City Chiefs (Nogales)ASU | |
| OL | Frank Pollack, San Francisco 49ers (Phoenix Greenway)NAU | |
| OL | Dale Hellestrae, Dallas Cowboys (Scottsdale Saguaro)SMU | |
| OL | Frank Garcia, Carolina Panthers (Phoenix Maryvale)Washington | |
| PK | Cole Ford, Oakland Raiders (Tucson Sabino)USC | |
| Р | Jeff Feagles, Arizona Cardinals (Phoenix Gerard)Miami (Fla.) | |
| | DEFENSE | |
| DB | Darren Woodson, Dallas Cowboys (Phoenix Maryvale)ASU | |
| DB | Anthony Parker, St. Louis Rams (Tempe McClintock)ASU | |
| DB | Phillippi Sparks, New York Giants (Phoenix Maryvale)ASU | |
| DB | Muhammad Oliver, Washington Redskins (Phoenix North)Oregon | |
| DB | Kevin Miniefield, Chicago Bears (Phoenix Camelback)ASU | |
| DB | Toby Wright, St. Louis Rams (Mesa Dobson)Nebraska | |
| DB | Darryl Morrison, Washington Redskins (Phoenix Camelback)Arizona | |
| DB | Mike Scurlock, St. Louis Rams (Tucson Cholla)Arizona | |
| DB | Eddie Cade, Kansas City Chiefs (Eloy Santa Cruz)ASU | |
| LB | Sean Harris, Chicago Bears (Tucson) | |
| LB | Jason Kyle, Seattle Seahawks (Tempe McClintock)ASU | |
| | DRAFTED NEWCOMERS Darnell Autry, Chicago Bears (Tempe Union)Northwestern | |
| RB | | |
| DE | Shawn Swayda, Chicago Bears (Phoenix Brophy Prep)ASU | |
| DB | Armon Williams, Houston Oilers (Tempe Valley Christian)Arizona | |
| DB | Kenny Wheaton, Dallas Cowboys (Tempe McClintock)Oregon | |

"He steals the goods and gets away scotfree. He's the classic bad guy."

"I've been fortunate, I guess," Parker told *The Associated Press*. "I just have that mentality when I get the ball I've got to score. It's just the way I've always been."

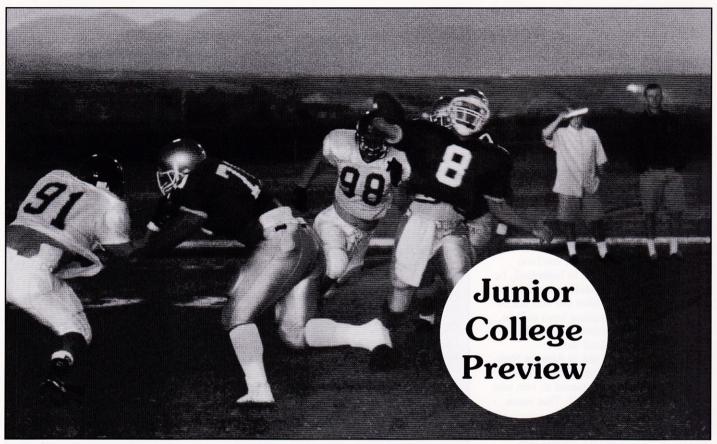
In high school Parker played for Arizona's all-time winningest coach, Karl

"Anthony Parker is the thief. He steals the goods and gets away scot-free. He's the classic bad guy." Kiefer, and was a running back and state scoring champion. He finished his prep career with 54 touchdowns, 29 during his senior year.

He was converted to defensive back at Arizona State, where he started for four years, touted by assistant coach Willie Shaw, now the Rams' defensive coordinator. In 1991, Parker led the World Football League with 11 interceptions, two for touchdowns.

Playing for Minnesota in 1992, Parker scored his first NFL touchdown on a 58-yard fumble return. In 1994, he returned two interceptions and a fumble for scores.

"I've always felt like I was an offensive player," Parker adds. "When I get the ball I've got to score."



Eastern Arizona quarterback Jacob Brann (8) gets off a pass against Snow College. Dave Busch (71) blocks. (Courier photo)

Mesa, Glendale Still Teams To Beat

By BART CONLEY

Like always, the annual Valley of the Sun Bowl, pitting the county's best junior college club against an out-of-state opponent, produced more fireworks than a July holiday.

In December, running back Anthony Dileso, the ACCAC Player of the Year, rushed for 175 yards, scored three touchdowns, returned a kickoff 46 yards and threw a touchdown pass, as host Glendale College (8-3) sprinted past Butler County, Kansas, 46-25.

It was head coach Jack Kersting's last game with the Gauchos. He then headed north, joining the staff at Northern Arizona University. It was Glendale's sixth state crown in seven years, and avenged a 26-24 loss to Kansas foe Garden City in the '95 contest.

The Grizzlies (7-4) managed 173 yards on the ground and 299 through the air, with the pitch-and-catch combination of quarterback Craig Strickland to Ricky Hall

causing the most damage. Both earned JC All-America status.

Besides Dileso's heroics, Glendale back Jay Hinton, a University of Arizona signee out of Phoenix Maryvale, added 137 yards and one score on 14 carries. Dileso carried the ball 24 times as the Gaucho running game amassed 403 yards.

"They had a good, balanced offense," said Kersting, who will coach NAU's defensive backs and special teams. "We concentrated on stopping the run. That was a big part of their offense. Our goal line stand with 14 minutes left probably sealed it for us."

Glendale finished the season No. 8 in the final NJCAA poll. It was the 10th postseason appearance in 15 years for Butler, a Kansas power.

"The schools you play in Arizona are damn good," first year coach James Shibest told *The Arizona Republic*. Shibest was an assistant at Garden City in 1995. "I told my athletic director, if we

had a choice, that's where I'd like to go play."

Besides Dileso, three additional Gauchos landed berths on the Western States Football League all-star squad: offensive lineman Marty Jones, defensive back Askia Stewart and Hinton, as a return specialist.

In the state JC ranks, every school but **Arizona Western** looks improved. Even though they broke 11 offensive records, it was a disappointing season at **Mesa**, according to head coach David Rice. "We were very young and it showed. Our kicking game lost three games for us, but recruiting solved that problem."

Price didn't have far to go to solve it, landing all-state kicker Jeremy Kelley, a key member of Mountain View's 5A state championship squad. Kelley kicked 15 field goals last year, 30 during his varsity career. He set a state record with five in one game against Tempe Marcos de Niza.

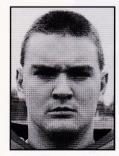
Altogether, Mesa returns seven offensive starters and six defensive starters. A "The schools you play in Arizona are damn good. I told my athletic director, if we had a choice, that's where I'd like to go play."

good recruiting class gives the Thunderbirds an important two deep look, and should improve last year's 4-6 finish. Two key all-league players return: defensive back Gavin Engle (6-3, 205) and defensive tackle Gilbert Aldana (6-0, 275). Speedy Gerald Green (5-9, 190), a much traveled running back, should start, along with tight end Randy Hakes (6-4, 240), a big-time prospect who has returned from a Mormon Mission. Giant tackle Ford Poston (6-8, 300), wideout William Lloyd (6-1, 180) and linebacker Mike Pekrul (6-3, 220) give Mesa three more major college prospects.

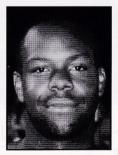
Besides Kelley, T'Bird newcomers who could be impact players include tight end Ricky Prigge (6-3, 215), tackle Chris Van Gorder (6-3, 295), defensive back Yohance Scott (6-1, 180), and wideouts Eric Moody (6-2, 175) and Chris Little (6-4, 175). All are former East Valley schoolboy products.

This fall seven former T'Birds will be playing for Pac-10 schools: defensive end Jayson Brown (UCLA) out of Scottsdale Saguaro, defensive end Bob McKane (Oregon State) from Mesa Westwood, tackle Tony Marshall (Oregon State) from Marcos de Niza, center Rusty James (Arizona) and tackle Ryan Turley (Arizona), both of Mesa Mountain View, tight end Ashley Burrows (Arizona) out of Chandler, and defensive back Aundrae Harris (California), a Phoenix Camelback product.

Mike Grossner, who coached last year at Agua Fria High, replaces Joe Kersting



Randy Hakes Mesa



Marq Muldrow Glendale

'97 Junior College Blue-Chippers

| ı | | | |
|---|------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| | QBMark Brooks | 6-3, 205 | Glendale |
| | RBGerald Green | 5-9, 190 | Mesa |
| | RBSteve Holmes | 5-10, 185 | Phoenix |
| | WRJason Carr | 5-10, 185 | Phoenix |
| | TERandy Hakes | 6-4, 240 | Mesa |
| | OTMike Wilhelms | 6-8, 330 | Glendale |
| | DTGilbert Aldana | 6-0, 275 | Mesa |
| | LBDane Sorenson | 6-2, 235 | Glendale |
| | DBIsaac Banks | 5-10, 175 | Eastern Arizona |
| | DBGavin Engle | 6-3, 205 | Mesa |
| | PKMike Johnson | 6-0, 225 | Glendale |
| | PKJeremy Kelley | 6-0, 170 | Mesa |
| ١ | | | |

at **Glendale**, where the Gauchos hope to defend their state crown with 25 lettermen and a solid recruiting class. Grossner is no stranger to Gaucho football, returning to the school where he served as offensive coordinator.

"This will be my seventh year here, and I think we can compete for another state championship," warns the new coach. "But we have a tough early schedule. We'll have to grow up early."

Watch for major college programs to pick up linebacker Dane Sorenson (6-2, 235), tackle Mike Wilhelms (6-8, 330) and kicker Mike Johnson (6-0, 225), an all-conference pick. Speedy defensive backs Herb Craft (5-9, 165, 4.4) and Troy Sheets (6-3, 210, 4.5) are tough. Guard Miguel Regalado (6-2, 260) and receiver Jess Castillo (5-9, 175) should start.

Several key newcomers could make a big difference, starting with gifted quarter-back Mark Brooks (6-3, 205), a former Phoenix Greenway star; fullback James Mova (6-1, 205), who rushed for 1,885 yards and 31 touchdowns at Kingman; and tackle Marquise Muldrow (6-3, 305), two-time state shot put champ from Phoenix Maryvale. The quickest newcomer appears to be cornerback Carlos Harris (6-1, 175), a 4.4 cover guy, also from Maryvale.

If upstart **Eastern Arizona** learns to win the close games, watch out. The Gila Monsters, coached by Paul Tidwell, were competitive in every game, but still finished 4-6. "We're making progress," claims Tidwell. "But we still have a ways to go to build the program to where we have that winning tradition."

The line looks solid, with sophomores Ralph Frias (6-5, 315), Jon Mathis (6-3, 275), John Oddonetto (6-5, 283) and

Sakalia Magalei (6-5, 235). Magalei, a redshirt freshman, starts at tight end.

Still, the marque player is free safety Isaac Banks (5-10, 175, 4.5), a second team all-Western State Football League pick. The former Tucson Sabino standout had four interceptions. In fact, the secondary is another EAJC strength, with safety Louison Paul (6-2, 215, 4.6) joining Banks to wreck havoc upon enemy receivers. Linebacker Orlando Huff (6-2, 225) backs up a solid front wall. The Gila Monsters signed 28 in-state players to football scholarships.

Phoenix College landed its strongest recruiting class in three years. They'll need it. John Allen's defense was much improved, but the Bears' offense finished last in the ACCAC. The school's lone win came against Scottsdale.

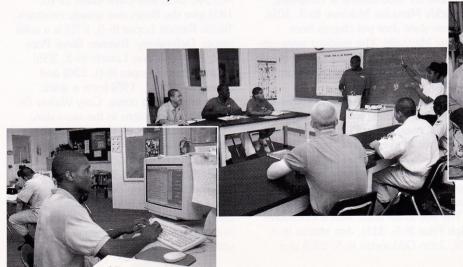
Still, quarterback is the big question. Whoever fills in will have a good running back for support, one of the best in the conference. Sophomore Steve Holmes (5-10, 185) runs 40 yards in 4.5 seconds. Wideouts Jason Carr (5-10, 185), an all-ACCAC pick, and Chris Gana (5-10, 185) give the Bears two speedy receivers. Tackle Ramon Lopez (6-3, 275) is a solid player. Defensively, linemen Steve Price (6-2, 230) and Wes Latecki (6-2, 235) return. Manuel Lopez (6-0, 230) and Steve Cota (5-11, 195) form a quick, tough linebacking corps. Cory Walker (5-10, 190, 4.5) returns in the secondary.

At **Scottsdale**, all three Artichokes named to the ACCAC all-star squad picked up diplomas: offensive lineman Shane Roberts, down lineman Tim Croft and linebacker Tony Becker. Croth also made the Western States Football League honor roll, including players from Snow, Dixie and Ricks College. He signed with the University of Utah.



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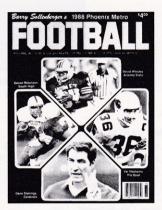




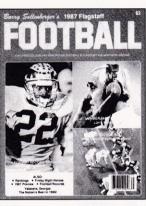
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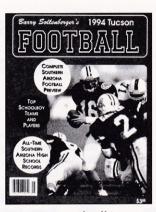
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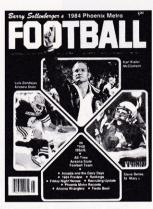
Phoenix Metro, 1988



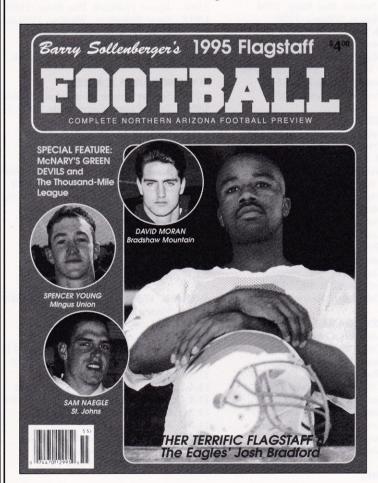
Flag Football, 1987



Tucson Football, 1994



Phoenix Metro, 1984

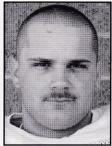


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Jason Kislingbury Winslow

FLAGSTAFF & NORTHERN ARIZONA ALL-TIME FOOTBALL RECORDS

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Trevor Mote Kingman

TOUCHDOWNS (GAME)

| 8Trent Thompson, Chinle, 1986 (jr) |
|------------------------------------|
| 6Joe Spear, Snowflake, 1958 |
| 6Jewell Russell, McNary, 1959 |
| 6Dillard Nelson, Williams, 1970 |
| 6Kit Landry, Williams, 1971 |
| 6Trent Thompson, Chinle, 1986 (jr) |
| 6Caesar Polk, Flagstaff, 1991 (jr) |
| 6Caesar Polk, Flagstaff, 1991 (jr) |

TOUCHDOWNS (SEASON)

| 38Scooter Sprotte, Blue Ridge, 1994 |
|---|
| 35Stan Gill, Flagstaff, 1981 |
| 35Jeremy Hathcock, Blue Ridge, 1989 (jr) |
| 35Jeremiah Navarro, Blue Ridge, 1995 |
| 33Dillard Nelson, Williams, 1970 |
| 31James Moua, Kingman, 1996 |
| 29Danny Beckwith, Page, 1975 |
| 29David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1985 |
| 29Jeremy "Mutt" Hall, Show Low, 1996 |
| 28Ron Carillo, Round Valley, 1966 (jr) |
| 28Caesar Polk, Flagstaff, 1991 (jr) |
| 27Guy Grover, Prescott, 1987 |
| 27Moses Love, Mohave, 1996 |
| 27James Faultner, Williams, 1996 (jr) |
| 26Tom Fruth, Payson, 1981 |
| 26Chris Matthews, Round Valley, 1981 |
| 26Trent Thompson, Chinle, 1987 |
| 26Spencer Ellsworth, St. Johns, 1991 (jr) |
| 26Marcus Bell, St. Johns, 1994 |

TOUCHDOWNS (CAREER)

26Jason Kislingbury, Winslow, 1994 (so)

POINTS (GAME)

| 36Caesar Polk, Flagstaff, 1991 (jr) |
|--|
| 36Caesar Polk, Flagstaff, 1991 (jr) |
| |
| POINTS (SEASON) |
| 246Jeremy Hathcock, BR, 1989 (jr) |
| 229Stan Gill, Flagstaff, 1981 |
| 228Scooter Sprotte, Blue Ridge, 1994 |
| 214Dillard Nelson, Williams, 1970 |
| 201 Jeremiah Navarro, Blue Ridge, 1995 |
| 197 Trevor Mote, Kingman, 1994-96 |
| 194James Moua, Kingman, 1996 |
| |

190Jeremy "Mutt" Hall, Show Low, 1996

180David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1985 180Trent Thompson, Chinle, 1987

38Dillard Nelson, Williams, 1970

38 Trent Thompson, Chinle, 1986 (jr)

POINTS (CAREER)

| 420Travis Palmer, Camp Verde, 1988-91 |
|--|
| 404 Jeremy Hathcock, Blue Ridge, 1988-90 |
| 377Stan Gill, Flagstaff, 1979-81 |
| 372 David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1983-85 |
| 372 Scooter Sprotte, Blue Ridge, 1992-94 |
| 369 "Mutt" Hall, Show Low, 1994-96 |
| 346Trevor Mote, Kingman, 1994-96 |
| 324Dillard Nelson, Williams, 1969-70 |
| 324Moses Love, Mohave, 1994-96 |
| 320 Caesar Polk, Flagstaff, 1991-92 |
| 316Mark Hamblin, Round Valley, 1969-71 |
| 315James Dugan, Flagstaff, 1960-63 |
| 312Tom Fruth, Round Valley, 1978-81 |
| 308 Jason Kislingbury, Winslow, 1994-96 |
| |

RUSHING YARDS (GAME)

| 426Aaron Craig, Window Rock, 199. |
|---|
| 403Joey Capps, Mohave, 1993 |
| 402Burton Belton, Winslow, 1958 |
| 339 Scooter Sprotte, Blue Ridge, 199 |
| 330Joe Spear, Snowflake, 1958 |
| 329 David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1985 |
| 323 Moses Love, Mohave, 1996 |
| 311Joey Capps, Mohave, 1993 |
| 303 David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1984 (ir) |

469 Stanley Jackson, Chinle, 1976

CARRIES (GAME)

| 40Joey | capps, Mona | ave, 1993 | | |
|---------|--------------|-----------|------|------|
| 37Jason | Kislingbury, | Winslow, | 1994 | (so) |

RUSHING YARDS (SEASON)

| neoning minds (or loon) |
|--|
| 2,961 Scooter Sprotte, Blue Ridge, 1994 |
| 2,273 Jeremy "Mutt" Hall, Show Low, 199 |
| 2,187 David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1984 (jr) |
| 2,123 Tom Fruth, Payson, 1981 |
| 2,114David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1985 |
| 2,111 Stan Gill, Flagstaff, 198l |
| 2,089 Moses Love, Mohave, 1996 |
| 2,062 Jeremy Hathcock, Blue Ridge, 1989 |
| 1,972 Jason Kislingbury, Winslow, 1994 (so |
| 1,926 Caesar Polk, Flagstaff, 1991 (jr) |
| 1,923 Marcus Bell, St. Johns, 1994 |
| 1,911 Ammon Lambson, St. Johns, 1990 |
| |

RUSHING YARDS (CAREER)

| 5,069Scooter Sprotte, Blue Ridge, 1992-94 |
|---|
| 4,985 Travis Palmer, Camp Verde, 1988-91 |
| 4,880 David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1983-85 |
| 4,461 Stan Gill, Flagstaff, 1979-81 |
| 4,432 "Mutt" Hall, Show Low, 1994-96 |
| 4,265 Tom Fruth, Payson, 1978-81 |
| 3,877Jeremy Hathcock, Blue Ridge, 1988-9 |
| 3,794 John Udall, Round Valley, 1982-84 |
| 3,788 Jason Kislingbury, Winslow, 1994-96 |
| 3,778 Moses Love, Mohave, 1994-96 |
| 3,736 Chris Matthews, RV, 1979-81 |
| 3,467 James Moua, Kingman, 1994-96 |
| 3,370 Caesar Polk, Flagstaff, 1991-92 |
| 3,268 Jeff Holly, Blue Ridge, 1986-88 |

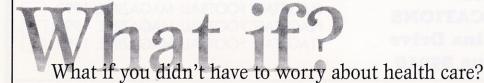
AVERAGE YARDS PER CARRY (SEASON)

3,237 ... Marcus Bell, St. Johns, 1992-94

| THE PROPERTY OF THE CHART (SEASON) |
|---|
| 13.6 Marcus Bell, St. Johns, 1994 |
| 13.4Sid Udall, Round Valley, 1973 |
| 13.4Mike Gonzalez, Flagstaff, 1983 |
| 12.7 David Moran, Bradshaw Mt., 1994 (jr) |
| 12.3 Scott Hamblin, Round Valley, 1980 |
| 11.8Joe Spear, Snowflake, 1958 |
| 11.4 Scooter Sportte, Blue Ridge, 1994 |
| 11.4Jeremy "Mutt" Hall, Show Low, 1996 |
| 11.3Frank Girardi, Blue Ridge, 1994 |
| 11.3 Moses Love, Mohave, 1995 (jr) |
| 11.2Fred Whipple, Snowflake, 1954 |
| 11.0James Dugan, Flagstaff, 1963 |
| 11.0Danny Beckwith, Page, 1975 |
| |

AVERAGE YARDS PER GAME (SEASON)

230.9...Aaron Craig, Window Rock, 1993







Last fall Jeremy "Mutt" Hall, the Class 3A state sprint champion, sprinted for 2,273 yards and 29 touchdowns (Nick Worth photo).

| 227.8Scooter Sprotte, Blue Ridge, 1994 |
|---|
| 208.9 Moses Love, Mohave, 1996 |
| 192.2David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1985 |
| 189.4Jeremy "Mutt" Hall, Show Low, 1996 |

LONGEST TOUCHDOWN RUN

| LUNGEST TOUCHDOWN KUN |
|---|
| 99Bob Bledsoe, Flagstaff, 1963 |
| 99Steve Moncibaez, Mingus, 1985 (so) |
| 99Jason Kislingbury, Winslow, 1994 (so) |
| 98Bill Hannah, Winslow, 1950 |
| 98Kelly LeSuer, Round Valley, 1976 |
| 97Reggie Edwards, Page, 1973 |
| 97 Dennis Baker Blue Ridge 1983 |

QUARTERBACK SNEAK (TOUCHDOWN)

| 99 | Bob Bledsoe | , Flagstaff, | 1963 |
|----|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| 99 | Steve Monci | baez Ming | is 1985 (so) |

PASSING YARDS (GAME)

| 452Mike Bitsuie, Ganado, 1995 (jr) |
|--|
| 449Jarrett Huma, Hopi, 1988 (so) |
| 440Jarrett Huma, Hopi, 1988 (so) |
| 435 Gentry Gillespie, Round Valley, 1991 |
| 393Jarrett Huma, Hopi, 1988 (so) |
| 393 David Nelson, Parker, 1988 |
| 384 Cory Seymore, Show Low, 1996 (jr) |
| 380Paschal Kinsel, Chinle, 1977 |
| 365Mike Orewyler, Mohave, 1977 |
| |

354Audie McKee, Coconino, 1983 354Jarrett Huma, Hopi, 1988 (so)

362 Jarrett Huma, Hopi, 1988 (so)

PASSING YARDS (SEASON)

2,923...Jarrett Huma, Hopi, 1988 (so) 2,906...Mike Bitsuie, Ganado, 1996

| _,, |
|---------------------------------------|
| 2,719Gary McEwen, Snowflake, 1982 |
| 2,436 Mike Bitsuie, Ganado, 1995 (jr) |
| 2,351 Yancey Ayres, Coconino, 1993 |
| 2,246 Isaac Panana, Hopi, 1995 (jr) |
| 2,098 Audie McKee, Coconino, 1983 |
| 2,058 Isaac Panana, Hopi, 1994 (so) |
| 1,969Willy Nikolaus, Show Low, 1990 |
| 1,902 Bryan Baker, Blue Ridge, 1991 |
| 1,895Sammy Cockerel, Coconino, 1992 |
| |

PASSING YARDS (CAREER)

| PASSING YARDS (CAREER) |
|--|
| 5,984 Isaac Panana, Hopi, 1994-96 |
| 5,578 Mike Bitsuie, Ganado, 1994-96 |
| 5,454David Moran, Bradshaw Mtn., 1992-95 |
| 5,291 Jarrett Huma, Hopi, 1988-90 |
| 4,375 Joel England, Camp Verde, 1988-90 |
| 4,026 Travis Hill, Kingman, 1988-90 |
| 3,823 Willy Nikolaus, Show Low, 1988-90 |

TOUCHDOWN PASSES (GAME)

| 7Jarrett Huma, Hopi, 1988 (so) |
|--------------------------------------|
| 6Audie McKee, Coconino, 1983 |
| 6Willy Nikolaus, Show Low, 1990 |
| 6David Moran, Bradshaw Mt., 1994 (ji |
| 5Joe Atterholt, Page, 1969 |
| 5Eric Ramsey, Snowflake, 1983 |
| 5Bert Gough, Flagstaff, 1984 |
| |

3,741 ... Audie McKee, Coconino, 1982-83

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| 5Mike McMahn, Prescott, 1987 |
|--------------------------------------|
| 5Bret Hood, Camp Verde, 1987 |
| 5Joel England, Camp Verde, 1989 (jr) |
| 5Steve Reeser, Prescott, 1991 |
| 5Sam Cockerel, Coconino, 1992 |
| 5Jason Curley, Ganado, 1993 (ir) |

TOUCHDOWN PASSES (SEASON)

| 28Mike Bitsuie, Ganado, 1996 |
|--|
| 26Jarrett Huma, Hopi, 1988 (so) |
| 26David Moran, Bradshaw Mt., 1994 (jr) |
| 25Willy Nikolaus, Show Low, 1990 |
| 25Mike Bitsuie, Ganado, 1995 (jr) |
| 24Gary McEwen, Snowflake, 1982 |
| 24 David Moran, Bradshaw Mtn., 1995 |
| 24Isaac Panana, Hopi, 1995 (jr) |

TOUCHDOWN PASSES (CAREER)

| 74David Moran, Bradshaw Mtn., 1992-9 |
|--------------------------------------|
| 60Isaac Panana, Hopi, 1994-96 |
| 56Mike Bitsuie, Ganado, 1994-96 |
| 47Joel England, Camp Verde, 1988-90 |
| 45Willy Nikolaus, Show Low, 1988-90 |

LONGEST TOUCHDOWN PASS

| LONGEST TOCCHDOWN TASS |
|----------------------------------|
| 99Keola Bandman to Matt Hanners, |
| Page, 1986 |
| 97Eddie Hamblin to Dusty Eager, |
| Round Valley, 1981 |
| 96Rick Gwynne to Mike Epperson, |
| Flagstaff, 1988 |
| |

RECEPTIONS (GAME)

| 19Bryan Marshall, Hopi, 1988 (so) |
|---|
| 18Randy Nikolaus, Show Low, 1982 (jr |
| 18Mike Funk, Hopi, 1988 |
| 18Bryan Marshall, Hopi, 1988 (so) |
| 17Mike Funk, Hopi, 1988 |
| 17Mike Funk, Hopi, 1988 |
| 13Mike Johnson, Parker, 1989 |
| 13Hermon Logan, Round Valley, 1991 |
| 12 Dusty Eagar, Round Valley, 1980 (jr) |
| 12Ky Christiansen, Lake Havasu, 1987 |
| 12Bryan Marshall, Hopi, 1988 (so) |
| 12Mike Johnson, Parker, 1989 |
| 12Steve Padilla, Kingman, 1993 |
| |

| RECEPTIONS (SEASON) |
|---------------------------------------|
| 89Randy Nikolaus, Show Low, 1982 (jr) |
| 83Mike Funk, Hopi, 1988 |
| 78Rod Denetso, Ganado, 1995 |
| 77Bryan Marshall, Hopi, 1988 (so) |
| 77Mike Johnson, Parker, 1989 |
| 75Bristol Olumua, Ganado, 1996 (so) |
| 71Rod Denetso, Ganado, 1994 (jr) |
| 66D.L. Nikolaus, Snowflake, 1962 |
| 60Tony Tate, Snowflake, 1982 |
| 59Clifford Nodman, Hopi, 1989 |
| 57Brian Merrill, Show Low, 1990 |
| 56Brian Merrill, Show Low, 1989 (jr) |

RECEPTIONS (CAREER)

| 149 | Rod | Denetso, | Ganado, | 1994-95 |
|-----|------|----------|-----------|---------|
| 135 | Mike | Johnson | . Parker. | 1987-89 |

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| 133Brian Merrill, Show Low, 1988-90 | |
|-------------------------------------|------|
| 132 Herman Logan, Round Valley, 198 | 8-91 |

RECEIVING YARDS (GAME)

| 021 | rine i din, riopi, 1900 |
|-----|---------------------------------|
| 318 | Bryan Marshall, Hopi, 1988 (so) |
| 212 | Miles Funk Honi 1000 |

313Mike Funk, Hopi, 1988

299 Mike Funk, Hopi, 1988

289Bryan Marshall, Hopi, 1988 (so) 239 Mike Johnson, Parker, 1989

234Darrin Parker, Prescott, 1983 (jr) 230Phillip Miller, Coconino, 1983

RECEIVING YARDS (SEASON)

1,471 ... Rod Denetso, Ganado, 1995

1,357 ... Rod Denetso, Ganado, 1994 (jr)

1,276 ... Mike Johnson, Parker, 1989

1,220 ... Mike Funk, Hopi, 1988

1,110...Mark Young, Coconino, 1993 1,088 ... Bryan Marshall, Hopi, 1988 (so)

RECEIVING YARDS (CAREER)

2,828 ... Rod Denetso, Ganado, 1994-95 2,137 ... Herman Logan, Round Valley, 1988-91 2,126 ... Mike Johnson, Parker, 1987-89

TOUCHDOWN RECEPTIONS (GAME)

| 5George Krekelberg, Camp Verde, 198 | 37 |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| 4Marcellus Spradley, Winslow, 1943 | |
| 4Mike Flake, Snowflake, 1982 | |
| 4Bryan Marshall, Hopi, 1988 (so) | |
| 4Dan Dorsey, Bradshaw Mt., 1994 (so) | |

TOUCHDOWN RECEPTIONS (SEASON)

| TO COLLEGE THE TOTAL (CENTOCH) |
|---------------------------------------|
| 17Rod Denetso, Ganado, 1994 (jr) |
| 15Domonic DeMark, Prescott, 1991 |
| 15Gerald Urlaub, Bradshaw Mt., 1991 |
| 14Mark Cibik, Coconino, 1982 |
| 14Rod Denetso, Ganado, 1995 |
| 13Mike Funk, Hopi, 1988 |
| 13Mike Johnson, Parker, 1989 |
| 13Dan Dorsey, Bradshaw Mt., 1994 (so) |
| 12 David Merrill, Show Low, 1990 |

TOUCHDOWN RECEPTIONS (CAREER)

| 31 | .Rod Denetso, Ganado, 1994-95 | |
|----|---------------------------------|----|
| 24 | .Mike Johnson, Parker, 1987-89 | |
| 23 | Dusty Eager, Round Valley, 1979 |)_ |

20 David Kiepke, Camp Verde, 1989-90

20Greg Book, Kingman, 1989-90

INTERCEPTIONS (SEASON)

| 13Jeremy Ryan, St. Johns, 1994 |
|---|
| 13Danny Arellano, Blue Ridge, 1994 |
| 12Chad Ence, St. Johns, 1989 (jr) |
| 11Chris Patterson, St. Johns, 1977 (jr) |
| 11Drayton Martin, Round Valley, 1987 |
| 11T. D. Hall, Blue Ridge, 1988 (jr) |
| 11Willie Martinez, Parker, 1988 |
| 11David Moran, Bradshaw Mt., 1993 (so) |
| 10P. Holt, Mingus, 1968 |
| 10 Stuart Moring Round Valley 1980 |

10George Pryer, Flagstaff, 1982 10Eric Lane, Coconino, 1983

10James Merrill, Mingus, 1988 10Travis McClendon, Mingus, 1990

INTERCEPTIONS (CAREER)

| 25 | David Moran, Bradshaw Mtn., 1992-95 |
|----|-------------------------------------|
| 24 | Troy Gilliland, Parker, 1982-85 |
| 21 | David Moran, Bradshaw Mt. (active) |
| 20 | Chad Ence, St. Johns, 1989-90 |

| INTERCEPTIONS (GAME) |
|---------------------------------------|
| 4Kevin Stars, Window Rock, 1974 |
| 4Trent Thompson, Chinle, 1986 (jr) |
| 4Tommy Stamps, Bradshaw Mt., '88 (jr) |
| 4Jason Edwards, Kingman, 1993 |
| 4Danny Caputo, Sinagua, 1993 |
| 4Danny Arellano, Blue Ridge, 1994 |
| |
| LONGEOT INTEROPPEDICAL PETEIDAL |

LONGEST INTERCEPTION RETURN

| 104Bill Kerr, Kingman, 1952 |
|---------------------------------|
| 103Greg Turner, Flagstaff, 1978 |
| 102Edgar Brown, Williams, 1968 |
| 100 Mark Faucher, Winslow, 1971 |

TD INTERCEPTIONS (GAME)

3.....Nate Bly, Winslow, 1961

FIELD GOALS (GAME)

4.....Eddie Hamblin, Round Valley, 1980 (jr) 4Eddie Hamblin, Round Valley, 1981

FIELD GOALS (SEASON)

| 11 Iony Butts, Lake Havasu, 1976 |
|-------------------------------------|
| 11Eddie Hamblin, Round Valley, 1981 |
| 11Dean Roney, Winslow, 1983 (jr) |
| 10Bob McGeary, Lake Havasu, 1974 |
| 10Dean Roney, Winslow, 1984 |
| 10Mike Cook, St. Johns, 1990 (jr) |

FIELD GOALS (CAREER)

| 21 | Dean Roney, Winslow, 1983-84 |
|----|--------------------------------------|
| 20 | Herik Mandel, Coconino, 1980-82 |
| 19 | Bob McGreary, Lake Havasu, 1972-74 |
| 19 | Eddie Hamblin, Round Valley, 1979-81 |

LONGEST FIELD GOALS

| 52 | Dean Roney, Winslow, 1984 |
|----|-----------------------------|
| 51 | Hank Lopez, Flagstaff, 1975 |
| 51 | Brian Rau, Flagstaff, 1990 |
| 50 | Brian Abraham, Kingman, 197 |

PATS (GAME)

| 12Alex | Shores, Pag | je, 1974 | 4 (jr) | |
|--------|-------------|----------|---------|------|
| 9Cow | en Hamblin, | Round | Valley, | 1973 |

9......Alex Shores, Page, 1974 (jr)

8......Alex Shores, Page, 1974 (jr)

- 8......Alex Shores, Page, 1974 (jr)
- 8......Stephen Waldo, Blue Ridge, 1996

PATS (SEASON)

| 59Greg Salyers, Blue Ridge, 1994 (jr) |
|---------------------------------------|
| 54Stephen Waldo, Blue Ridge, 1995 (j |
| 50Alex Shores, Page, 1974 (jr) |
| 49Jason Edwards, Bradshaw Mt., 1994 |
| 49Stephen Waldo, Blue Ridge, 1996 |
| 48Joe Caldwell, Snowflake, 1993 (jr) |
| 44Kenny Walker, Round Valley, 1980 |
| 43Blaine Crowther, Snowflake, 1992 |
| 43Katie Tribble, Flagstaff, 1994 (jr) |
| 42 Dawson Gofourth, Flagstaff, 1985 |

CONSECUTIVE PATS

45 Dawson Gofourth, Flagstaff, 1984-85

PATS (CAREER)

116 Stephen Waldo, Blue Ridge, 1994-96 109Blaine Crowther, Snowflake, 1990-92

LONGEST PUNT

| 90J.T. Ellsworth, Snowflake, 1985 (jr) |
|--|
| 89Domonic DeMark, Prescott, 1991 |
| 87Don Ohnstead, Snowflake, 1949 |
| 80Lee Daniels, Kingman, 1943 |
| 78Jack Miller, Flagstaff, 1960 |
| 78David Kiepke, Camp Verde, 1990 |
| 78Jeremiah Rector, Ganado, 1996 (jr) |

PUNTING AVERAGE (SEASON)

| 52.0J.T. Ellsworth, Snowflake, 1985 (jr) |
|--|
| 49.3Trent Thompson, Chinle, 1987 |
| 47.8Domonic DeMark, Prescott, 1991 |
| 46.8 Gary Williams, Blue Ridge, 1974 |
| 46.4 Trent Thompson, Chinle, 1986 (jr) |
| 46.3David Kiepke, Camp verde, 1990 |
| 46.2Ryan Tkalcevic, Page, 1995 |
| |

LONGEST FUMBLE RECOVERY (TD)

| 99 | Ryan Noble, Show Low, 1988 |
|----|------------------------------|
| 98 | Mike Hayes, Kingman, 1967 |
| 97 | Mike Baughman, Kingman, 1981 |
| 97 | Mike Esquibel, Kingman, 1993 |

LONGEST PUNT RETURN (TD)

| 98 | Derald Cox, Flagstaff, 1968 |
|----|--------------------------------|
| 97 | Charlie Jones, Prescott, 1955 |
| 97 | Don Track, Parker, 1968 |
| 96 | James Dugan, Flagstaff, 1962 |
| 96 | Andrew Porter, Flagstaff, 1985 |
| 95 | Trevor Mote Kingman 1996 |

TOUCHDOWNS-PUNT RETURNS (GAME)

3......Paul Russell, Flagstaff, 1934

| LUNGEST KICKOFF RETURN (TD) | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| 105 George Krekelberg, Camp Verde, 1988 | | | | |
| 100Brian Robinson, Kingman, 1983 | | | | |
| 99Kelly LeSueur, Round Valley, 1975 | | | | |
| 99Tony Squieri, Lake Havasu, 1981 | | | | |
| | | | | |

99.....Myran Hansen, Coconino, 1986 (jr)

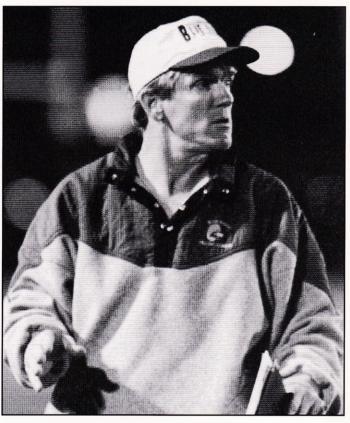
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| 1993 | Mike Morgan, St. Johns |
| 1992 | Jim Beall, Snowflake |
| 1991 | Tom Wheatley, Agua Fria |
| | Jeff Scurran, Tucson Sabino |
| 1989 | .Gary Venturo, Tempe Corona del Sol |
| | Jerry Loper, Mesa Westwood |
| 1987 | Mike Clark, Mesa Dobson |
| | Jim Rattay, Mesa |
| 1985 | Jim Bevell, Scottsdale Chaparral |
| 1984 | Pat Farrell, Phoenix St. Mary's |
| 1983 | Jesse Parker, Mesa Mountain View |
| 1982 | Earl Putman, Moon Valley |
| 1981 | Richard Gray, Scottsdale Horizon |
| 1980 | Karl Kiefer, Tempe McClintock |
| 1979 | Vern Friedli, Tucson Amphi |
| | Dan Dunn, Gilbert |
| 1977 | Jim Russum, Casa Grande |
| | Ed Anderson, Scottsdale Coronado |
| | Jerry Loper, Tucson Amphi |
| 1974 | Bill Epperson, Flagstaff Coconino |
| 1973 | Van Howe, Tucson Palo Verde |
| 1972 | Harvey Keeney, Miami |
| 1971 | Ollie Mayfield, Tucson |
| 1970 | Ed Hubbard, Pima |
| 1969 | Ray Laing, Phoenix Central |
| | Ike Sharp, Douglas |
| 1967 | Ed Doherty, Phoenix St. Mary's |
| | Lonnie Foster, Eloy Santa Cruz |
| 1965 | John Mallamo, Tucson |



BLUE RIDGE HEAD COACH PAUL MORO. (Nick Worth photo)

| 1964 | Emil Nasser, Winslow |
|------|-----------------------------------|
| | |
| 1963 | Royal Price, Mesa |
| 1962 | Bob Hendricks, Scottsdale Arcadia |
| 1961 | Lou Farber, Tucson Pueblo |
| 1960 | Edgar "Mutt" Ford, Mesa |
| 1959 | Fred Bingham, Sunnyslope |
| 1958 | Phil Kreuger, Yuma Union |
| 1957 | Vern Braasch, Phoenix West |
| 1956 | John Zucco, Tempe |



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